FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 080 *26 April 1982*

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT/START/MBFR

Davydov Blames U.S. For Nuclear Proliferation [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 20 Apr] AA 1
IZVESTIYA Views European Peace Movement [15 Apr] AA 3
Moscow Commentary on Disarmament Session AA 5
IZVESTIYA Views Session [23 Apr] AA 5
PRAVDA Comments [Melnikov, 26 Apr] AA 5
TASS Preview [Menkes] AA 6

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

International Observers' Roundtable for 25 Apr [Andrianov, Volskiy, Nekrasov] CC 1
USSR Peace Proposals CC 1
Growing Antiwar Movement CC 2
Falkland Islands Dispute CC 3
Israeli Withdrawal From Sinai CC 6
Indian Ocean Conference CC 6

FALKLAND ISLANDS CRISIS

British Shell Sub, Take South Georgia Island DD 1
UK Cabinet Session DD 1
UK Seizure of South Georgia DD 1
Nott Statement DD 1
British Capture Leith DD 1
PRAVDA Reaction [26 Apr] DD 2
U.S. Officials Express Support for Britain DD 2
Argentine CP Secretary in Falklands Crisis DD 3

NORTHEAST ASIA

Communique Issued on Results of USSR-Japan Talks C 1

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Romanov Leads CPSU Delegation to Lao Congress E 1
Arrival in Vientiane E 1
LPRP, CPSU Delegations Meet E 1
NOVOYE VREMYA Predicts Fall Invasion of Indochina E 2
USSR, SRV Sign Scientific, Cultural Agreement [PRAVDA 20 Apr] E 2
20,000 Vietnamese Trained E 2

EASTERN EUROPE

PZPR Holds Plenum on Economic Problems F 1
Plenum's Conclusion F 1
Kulikov Comments on Soviet Hungarian Exercises F 1
[Zvyagelskiy in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 20 Apr]

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

'Studio Nine' Addresses Middle East Issues H 1
[Zorin, Brutents, Primakov]
Middle East Situation H 1
U.S. Middle East Policy H 3
'Zionist' Israeli Lobby H 5
Israeli Withdrawal From Sinai H 5
Multinational Forces H 6
Lebanese Unrest H 7
Arab Unity Examined H 8
Future Prospects for the Region H 9
USSR Middle East Policy H 10
Sinai Still Occupied After Israeli Withdrawal H 11
TASS 'Statement' H 11
Effect on Middle East H 12
Habash, Sharon Remarks H 13
Israeli Raid Signals 'Threat' to Lebanon H 13
U.S. 'Blessing' [Ponomarev] H 13
U.S. Support [Ponomarev] H 14
Petroleum Cooperation Major Topic in Iran Talks H 15
Tabas Raid Recalled; Plots Against Iran Continue H 15
Freedom Struggle [Sheftunov] H 15
Past, Present U.S. Schemes H 16
Overflying Mauritanian Leader Cables Brezhnev H 17
[PRAVDA 20 Apr]

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Aliyev-Led Delegation's Activities in Mexico K 1
23 April Report K 1
Brezhnev Message to President K 1
Tour of Country K 1
U.S. To Send Military Aid to Guatemalan Regime K 2
[Kharkov]
U.S. Seeks to 'Cajole' El Salvador's D'Aubuisson K 3
[Tuchnin in IZVESTIYA 17 Apr]
Reagan Caribbean Tour Pursues Strategic Aims K 3
[Ruslanov in IZVESTIYA 15 Apr]
KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Recalls Bay of Pigs Events K 4
[Nikanorov, 17 Apr]

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

TASS Reports First Quarter Economic Results S 1
Industrial Output S 1
Economic Weekly Reviews 1981 Foreign Trade Facts S 2
[Klyuchek in EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA No 14]
PRAVDA Urges Better Use of Directors' Councils [15 Apr] S 8
PRAVDA Examines Manpower Distribution Problems S 10
[Parfenov, 5 Apr]
Problems in Kazakhstan Power Industry Noted S 12
[Afanasyev in PRAVDA 14 Apr]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Some Farm Machinery Not Ready for Spring T 1
[PRAVDA 16 Apr]
Agricultural Developments for 22-25 Apr T 2
Increased Attention To Fodder Crops Urged T 4
[PRAVDA 15 Apr]

SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENTS

Cosmos-1353 Satellite Launched 23 April U 1
Satellite Data Station Constructed Near Moscow U 1
Polar Research Ship Heading for Greenland Sea U 1
[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 15 Apr]
Briefs: Television Relay U 1

DAVYDOV BLAMES U.S. FOR NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

PM231521 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Apr 82 p 3

[Candidate of Historical Sciences V. Davydov article: "The Fruits of Adventurism: Washington Is Helping to Proliferate Nuclear Weapons"]

[Text] The R. Reagan administration's course of whipping up the arms race, exacerbating international relations and suppressing the peoples' liberation struggle has led to a sharp increase in the threat of the further proliferation of nuclear weapons on our planet. The probability has now increased that a number of so-called "near-nuclear" states not party to the treaty on nuclear nonproliferation (1968), like Pakistan, Israel and South Africa, could embark on the path of an open nuclear arms race. The rulers of those states, in order to realize their nuclear ambitions, cunningly exploit Washington's interest in stepping up their contribution to American imperialism's global strategy.

The possibility of an uncontrolled expansion of the "nuclear club" is fraught with unpredictable, pernicious consequences for international security. It is not hard to imagine where the development of events could lead if the arsenals of such quarrelsome countries as, for instance, Israel were to include nuclear weapons too. An increase in the number of nuclear states would also cause extreme complications on nuclear disarmament questions, which require urgent resolution now more than ever before.

As of now 117 states have signed and ratified the nonproliferation treaty. But some 50 countries still have not accepted it, including nuclear powers -- the PRC and France.

There are still forces in the world which seek to obtain nuclear weapons in order to threaten freedom-loving peoples. In this situation great significance is attached to the tasks of cutting short such attempts by reactionary regimes and implementing a consistent policy in the sphere of nonproliferation. Annual UN General Assembly resolutions call for this, and it is advocated by the Soviet Union, the fraternal socialist countries and most of the states of the world community.

What is Washington's approach to the resolution of these problems? It is declared at a high official level that the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons is "one of the main aims of U.S. national security and foreign policy." The extent to which these words correspond to practical actions can be seen from the American approach to relations with potential members of the "nuclear club."

Pakistan, for instance, sees the United States as the main champion of its hegemonist policy in South Asia. That is why the Reagan administration obtained from Congress the lifting of the "Symington-Glenn amendment" to the law on military aid, which banned arms deliveries to countries carrying out secret work in the nuclear sphere. It was decided to sell Islamabad, along with other military hardware and armaments, 40 F-16 fighter-bombers, which could be used as a means of delivery of nuclear wapons. Even in the United States this was seen as encouragement for the nuclear ambitions of Ziaul Haq's dictatorial regime. Senator A. Cranston noted, not with sarcasm: "If I were the leader of Pakistan I would take this step to mean that I can detonate a bomb and U.S. aid will continue."

Washington officials assert that conventional arms deliveries will slow down the rate of Pakistan's nuclear preparations. The fact that such preparations are in full swing there is no secret in the United States. The American administration recently sanctioned an information leak from a secret CIA report asserting that solely "thanks to American aid" Pakistan has postponed for 2 or 3 years the nuclear weapons test which it planned to conduct in late 1982. But it should be obvious that if Islamabad did adopt such a decision, it was dictated by its desire to obtain as much American military hardware as possible before openly declaring itself a new nuclear state.

The world press reports that Pakistan is continuing to stockpile nuclear technology and materials which could be used for military purposes.

Military deliveries to Ziaul Haq's regime and Washington's desire to interfere in the affairs of the countries of the Indian subcontinent have already led to an appreciable increase in tension in South Asia. Islamabad's nuclear ambitions cause legitimate concern in neighboring India, which has declared that it will be forced to adopt appropriate measures if Pakistan becomes a nuclear state. In this connection the American journal FOREIGN POLICY warns: "The United States is increasing the danger that military operations using conventional armaments in South Asia could lead to a nuclear conflict."

U.S. "stragetic cooperation" with another "near-nuclear" state -- Israel -- is producing luxuriant militarist blossoms. The chief U.S. ally in the Near East receives very large consignments of modern American armaments. In 1982 alone Washington has pledged to grant Israel military and economic aid to the tune of $2.5 billion. Yet even by CIA assessments Israel may have already created nuclear weapons and be now rapidly progressing toward the creation of delivery vehicles. It is the aim of the Israeli aggressors -- an aim which is fully in accordance with U.S. interests -- to dictate their capitulation terms to Arab countries "from a position of strength." Such diktat, Tel Aviv believes, would be irresistible if it were based not only on conventional but also on nuclear weapons.

The United States is also extending its military-political cooperation with racist South Africa, which Reagan has called a "friendly and allied" state. Washington sees South Africa as a candidate for the role of regional gendarme in the south of the African Continent and intends to obtain military bases on its territory, on the basis of which it plans to gain control of the southeastern Atlantic and the southwestern sector of the Indian Ocean.

Pretoria's rulers have their own plans. In offering their services to the United States and NATO they make no secret of their nuclear lusts. Thus L. Barnard, head of the South African intelligence service, has stated that they should develop nuclear weapons before it is too late, as "weapons of last resort" in the struggle against national liberation forces.

The facts show that in this extremely dangerous venture the racists are receiving support from across the ocean. According to a Washington POST report the American industrial companies (EDLOU) International and (SVUKO) have made available to the apartheid state more than 100 tons of enriched uranium, which is needed for the manufacture of the atom bomb. And according to the Johannesburg STAR the Reagan administration has given the American corporation Control Data permission to sell South Africa two computers which, as American Congressman William Gray warned, could be used to calculate the yields of nuclear charges and explosions.

Thanks to aid from Western countries the South African Army already has Canberra and Mirage planes capable of carrying nuclear bombs and missiles. According to Western press reports South Africa and Israel are carrying out work in an atmosphere of the utmost secrecy on creating nuclear submarines and cruise missiles.

In 1979 and 1980 mysterious flashes occured south of the South African coast. In the opinion of a number of foreign experts these could have been nuclear tests carried out by the South African racists. Let us recall that back in 1977 South Africa was about to test a nuclear bomb. At that time it was only thwarted because of a timely Soviet warning given in a TASS statement.

Not so long ago South Africa's racist bosses and Chile's fascist junta exchanged visits by high-ranking military delegations. In the course of the talks there was discussion of creating a South Africa-Chile axis, which U.S. ruling circles regard as one of the most important possible levers for the implementation of their South Atlantic strategy.

These contacts are particularly sinister in the light of South Africa's nuclear aspirations and of a report which appeared even earlier in Chile's EL MERCURIO newspaper on the possibilities which exist for creating an atom bomb in Chile.

The Reagan administration's course of strengthening the military potential of Pakistan, Israel, South Africa and other countries and extending military-political cooperation with them is becoming increasingly evident. This at least indicated a U.S. departure from the commitment to actively oppose the nuclear ambitions of countries preparing to challenge the policy of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. Moreover, as foreign observers note, the impression is created that Washington is embarking on a risky "game" in the hope that the new nuclear states having allied or friendly relations with it could create an additional threat to the socialist and developing countries and thus make it easier for U.S. imperialism to achieve military advantages on a global scale. But such calculations are as adventurist as they are shortsighted, since sooner or later they will rebound on their originators.

As you see, Washington is verbally calling on others not to create nuclear weapons but in practice itself regards these weapons as the main means of implementing its hegemonist policy and actually connives at the nuclear ambitions of antipopular regimes which are to its liking. This hypocritical behavior cannot fail to significantly weaken the effectiveness of the nonproliferation treaty.

As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev has stressed, the spread of nuclear weapons from one country to another "will increase the danger of a nuclear conflict breaking out, even by accident. Then no 'nuclear umbrellas' will provide cover against the lethal storm." To put an end to American imperialism's nuclear adventurism -- that is the peoples' resolute demand.

IZVESTIYA VIEWS EUROPEAN PEACE MOVEMENT

PM221437 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Apr 82 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Peace is the Requirement of Millions"]

[Text] Members of the "peace champions of Finland" movement have called for a broad struggle to be mounted to create a nuclear-free zone in north Europe.... Over 1,000 FRG scientists have signed the appeal "scientists against new nuclear missiles...." The participants in a peace march have left Nagasaki and Hiroshima. All along their way they have collected signatures to a petition demanding the halting of the arms race and the prevention of nuclear catastrophe....

These are just a few reports from the many dozens which are coming in from all corners of the earth in this spring, pre-May Day season. The movement for peace and against the arms race and nuclear war has acquired unprecedented scope. Concern and alarm for the planet's future have rallied millions of people, often of different political views and convictions. Every realistically minded person is fully aware of the irreparable consequences which could result for mankind from U.S. imperialism's aggressive course. It is hard to believe the Washington politicians' stories of the possibility of a "limited nuclear war." It is hard to imagine the flames of a thermonuclear war bypassing some people or failing to scorch them with their lethal fire. That is why the world of the CPSU Central Committee 1982 May Day slogans reverberated loudly in many countries.

Peoples of the world: Deal a resolute rebuff to the aggressive intrigues of imperialism, militarism and revanchism!

Let us curb the arms race, deepen detente and remove the threat of war!

The mass antiwar demonstrations which have swept the West European countries have been a response to the NATO council decision to deploy U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles on the continent. Polls show that the majority of the population of the FRG, Italy, Belgium, and the Netherlands is aware of the danger of the step taken by the NATO strategists. In practice there is not a single "islet" of any note remaining in West Europe which has not been gripped by antimilitarist sentiments. Recent events have clearly shown that Washington has adopted an overt course toward giving a new twist to the nuclear arms race. The "arms upgrading" decision is aimed at undermining the policy of detente and disrupting the approximate parity which has formed between NATO and the Soviet Union in Europe in terms of medium-range nuclear armaments. Washington is thus trying to change in its favor the overall global strategic balance.

Time has left a marked trace in people's consciousness. Despite all the endeavors of the opponents of detente, they will not succeed in reversing the development of international events or directing them into the former cold war channel. One of the main factors in the movement of peace-loving forces is that millions of people have felt the beneficial results of the policy of detente. It is clearer than ever today that detente and cooperation are the shortest and most reliable path toward disarmament and the destruction of military arsenals.

The concepts of peace and socialism are inseparable. Despite all the endeavors of bourgeois propagandists the myth of the "Soviet military threat" which they have created is collapsing. After all, it was precisely the Soviet Union which, with the fraternal socialist countries, laid the foundation to the policy of detente. Throughout its history the land of the soviets has consistently struggled to establish peace on earth and to free mankind from the burden of military expenditure. The interests of strengthening peace and reducing the danger of the outbreak of war remain unaltered for the USSR. This was graphically expressed in the 26th CPSU Congress decisions. In the peace program for the eighties the party defined the main avenues of Soviet foreign policy. Our country has recently come out with a series of large-scale proposals which lay the foundation for curtailing the nuclear arms race, primarily in Europe.

It is perfectly clear that the question of nuclear weapons in Europe is not only a question of the continent's future, it is also a question of the destiny of the policy of detente. The destiny of peace. As a result of the Soviet side's persistent efforts and principled line, the Soviet side has succeeded in initiating talks with the United States. The very fact that Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear arms limitation in Europe have been initiated in Geneva has been welcomed with satisfaction by the world public. But it is important not simply to initiate and hold talks. Both sides are required to display the will and desire to complete dialogue by attaining substantial results. The Soviet Union is already prepared to agree on the complete renunciation by both sides -- East and West -- of all types of medium-range weapons aimed at targets in Europe. We can go even further: We can agree to rid the continent completely of nuclear weapons, both medium-range and tactical.

Bourgeois newspapers are writing with alarm of the new "antimissile eruption" in Europe. Millions of people have now signed petitions and appeals demanding prevention of the deployment of U.S. Tomahawks and Pershings and the thwarting of a new twist to the nuclear arms race.

Addressing the 17th USSR Trade Union Congress, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, reported that the Soviet leadership had decided unilaterally to impose a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range nuclear armaments in the European part of our country. This initiative was welcomed with understanding by the progressive public.

The Soviet Union again demonstrated its desire to struggle to preserve world peace. "We cannot relax this struggle for a single day," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said at the ceremonial meeting in Tashkent, "and we will wage it until the danger has been pushed back, until lasting peace is ensured."

Only by the joint efforts of all people of good will is it possible to prevent the production of the neutron bomb and chemical weapons and to end the arms race. That is why the words of the CPSU Central Committee May Day slogans are so topical:

Peace champions! Augment your efforts in the sacred struggle for the greatest right -- the right to life!

Resolutely advocate the prohibition of nuclear, neutron and chemical weapons!

"No" to nuclear war!

Peace for the world!

MOSCOW COMMENTARY ON DISARMAMENT SESSION

IZVESTIYA Views Session

LD232038 Moscow TASS in English 2028 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 23 Apr, TASS -- The spring session of the disarmament committee in Geneva has shown that it "turned into a representative forum which discussed a large number of practical issues of stopping the arms race and consolidating peace and cooperation between the peoples", IZVESTIYA writes today.

The newspaper recalls that the committee had to prepare a number of important documents for the second special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament, scheduled to be held in New York in June. Among them are drafts of the comprehensive disarmament program, as well as proposals concerning the prohibition of nuclear tests, banning of radiological weapons, and production and stockpiling of all types of chemical weapons. The session's working groups drew up special reports on all these questions.

"From the very beginning", the article points out, "the delegations from the NATO countries led by the United States tried to direct the work of the session's working groups into the channel of confrontation. However, the attempts to impose NATO concepts on the session were rebuffed by the delegations from the socialist, neutral and developing nations."

The newspaper writes that the participants in the session evinced most lively interest in the new peace initiatives of the Soviet Union. "The proposals by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev," Mexico's Ambassador Alfonso Garcia Robles said in a talk with an IZVESTIYA correspondent, "open new prospects for averting a nuclear catastrophe and reducing the level of international tension."

Summing up the session's work, IZVESTIYA points out an active and constructive stand of the countries of the socialist community which submitted many concerete proposals.

PRAVDA Comments

LD260752 Moscow TASS in English 0720 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 26 Apr, TASS -- It is owing to the persistent, constructive policy of the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community that the scales have again been tipped in favour of realism and good will at the Geneva Palace of Nations, where the disarmament committee has ended its session, Igor Melnikov writes in PRAVDA today.

The socialist countries countered concrete peace initiatives to the United States' policy for working up tensions, blackmailing other countries with the help of the doctrine of a "limited" nuclear war, conducting full-scale production of neutron weapons and unleashing the chemical arms race, the commentator emphasizes.

The socialist countries' proposal for the start of talks aimed at putting a cap on the nuclear arms race, in particular banning neutron weapons, appeared as a timely one on the session's agenda. It is precisely on the socialist countries' initiative that the committee adopted the decision on the start of concrete talks towards the comprehensive ban of nuclear weapons tests.

The participants in the session discussed the Soviet Union's proposal, which stresses the need to prevent the spread of the arms race to outer space. Discussion on the problem of prohibiting chemical weapons revealed the dangerous and adventurist nature of Washington's position, the commentary says. A number of delegates pointed out that the United States' decision on its chemical rearmament came as a link in the whole chain of ominous plans and events such as the launching of neutron weapons production, plans to deploy new U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe and overall NATO decisions to build up its military preparations.

The Geneva session demonstrated that most of the states are genuinely interested in the earliest possible attainment of results in the field of disarmament, a fact evidenced by the drafting of a comprehensive program for disarmament, which will be submitted to the United Nations General Assembly second special session on disarmament.

TASS Preview

LD260826 Moscow TASS in English 0757 GMT 26 Apr 82

[By TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Menkes]

[Text] New York, 26 Apr, TASS -- A regular, and last, session of the preparatory committee for the second special General Assembly session on disarmament is opening here today. The session is to sum up the work done and to outline tasks to be accomplished before the opening of the forum.

In making preparations for the special session political and public figures proceed from the belief that in the present worsened international situation it is necessary to step up the efforts to restrain the arms race and to make steps toward real disarmament. Therefore the new Soviet peace initiatives have attracted great attention here. The Soviet-suggested series of new constructive proposals for arms limitation and military detente have had the effect of considerably intensifying preparations for the special session at all levels.

What makes Soviet initiatives invariably attractive in the United Nations is the fact that they meet the hopes and aspirations of peace-loving peoples. Nuclear detente measures are ones of paramount importance for our time, said U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, when speaking in New York several days ago.

The second special session can and must provide a fresh stimulus to talks on concrete ripe questions of arms limitation and disarmament. As to Washington, it seeks a curtailment of even those talks which it has failed to disrupt. The White House and the State Department are blocking preparations for this forum.

Such a policy by the U.S. administration arouses the indignation of the world and American public. It is under the slogan of condemnation of this policy that a public demonstration of half a million people will be held outside the U.N. Headquarters on June 12 to mark the opening of the second special General Assembly session on disarmament.

INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS' ROUNDTABLE FOR 25 APR

LD251410 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0845 GMT 25 Apr 82

["International Observers' Roundtable" program, presented by Boris Andrianov, all-union radio foreign political affairs commentator, with Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of the editorial board of NOVOYE VREMYA, and Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov, international observer of KOMMUNIST]

[Text] [Andrianov] This week our people, together with its friends and like-minded people abroad, marked the 112th anniversary of the birth of Vladmir Ilich Lenin. Delivering a report at the solemn session in the Kremlin, Comrade Andropov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, stressed that Lenin's views on problems of war and peace are a valuable lesson. The most important among them is the consistent and uncompromising assertion of the idea of an organic bond between peace and socialism, a bond flowing from the fact that the new society does not need war: War runs counter to all its interests and ideals, all the aspirations of the working people. Today, when the question of war and peace is a question of life or death for whole peoples, for human civilization itself, these Leninist ideas have acquired unprecedented topicality. In the struggle for peace the Soviet Union remains true to great Lenin's behests. Our party and the Soviet state are purposefully upholding the principles of peaceful coexistence, and unswervingly follow a course of peace and international cooperation. Our homeland is firmly treading a Leninist path in foreign policy, even in conditions of the present complicated and tense atmosphere which is forming in the international arena. The peace program for the eighties, developed and approved by the 26th congress of our party, is the embodiment of Lenin's behests, and the Soviet Union is sparing no effort to implement it. Further confirmation of this are the new, topical peace initiatives put forward by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev at the congress of Soviet trade unions and at the ceremonies in Tashkent. Again and again the Soviet Union emphasizes its readiness for dialogue with the United States, for negotiations to resolve the most pressing problems of disarmament and of warding off the threat of nuclear war. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev reasserted this readiness when he replied to a question from a PRAVDA correspondent: We are in favor of holding a Soviet-American meeting at the highest level, Leonid Ilich pointed out, which would be in accordance with the high responsibility of our states for the situation in the world, and would justify the hopes invested in it.

USSR Peace Proposals

The world public evaluated our country's new proposal as yet further confirmation of the resolve of the Soviet leadership not to let slip even one opportunity to save mankind from the threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe.

[Nekrasov] Here, if we look at the progressive press, the press of the fraternal socialist countries, the press organs of the communist and workers' parties, the characteristic feature running through all the responses is that the reply by Comrade Brezhnev to the PRAVDA correspondent is being seen as linked in the most indissoluble manner with such major, important proposals and initiatives as those put forward in his speeches at the congress of Soviet trade unions and in Tashkent. The press organs, commentators and observers stress that taken together these proposals mark a distinct stage, that is to say, they comprise an important new step by the Soviet Union in its struggle for the implementation of the peace program for the eighties put forward by the 26th party congress.

This is precisely the way all these proposals have been received in the press organs which speak from a position of reason, of a sober approach to international affairs today. It is noted, for example, that the post-war history of Soviet-American relations provides plenty of evidence in favor of meetings such as those now proposed by the Soviet Union to improve the general political climate in the world. L'HUMANITE, the French Communists' paper, summarizing reaction in the West to the Soviet proposal, writes: Whether he wants to or not, Reagan must reckon with the position of the peoples.

And the progressive Indian paper, THE PATRIOT, in a way continues this debate. If the President of the United States, the paper writes, ignores this appeal, it risks still further undermining its position, both in the United States and beyond its borders.

The bourgeois press did not pass over the matter either, and particularly in the West European countries it gave a very high assessment of all the new Soviet proposals, in particular the proposal for dialogue with the United States at the very highest level, as a most important and most interesting initiative. The West German KOELNER STADTANZEIGER writes: It seems advisable for the American side to meet the Soviet proposlas half-way and begin preparations for such a meeting immediately.

[Andrianov] Vadim Nikolayevich, judging by what's being published in the American press, very serious attention has been paid to the words of the Soviet leader. They have not only been quoted in full on the front pages of the newspapers, but quite a few leading articles have been devoted to them, and television commentators have repeatedly referred to them. Summing up all these reactions, how would you assess the attitude taken in this connection by the mass media in the United States?

[Nekrasov] I'd say their attitude is a serious and thoughful one, devoid, for the most part, of any of that recklessness that sometimes characterizes the statements of the American press. They have discerned in the words of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev our country's sincere interest in renewing the Soviet-American dialogue at summit level. It is voiced as a subtext -- and sometimes actually stated -- that the White House must not miss the existing opportunity for talks on the most acute questions of our time, which are worrying millions of people throughout the world. It is also noted that the NATO allies of the United States evidently would not support Washington if it began to evade the proposals from the Soviet side. And as for the White House, you remember, no doubt, that it so far confines itself to saying that the proposals of the head of the Soviet state will be carefully studied. There the official circles in the American capital have decided, for the time being, to put a full stop. But one would imagine that pressure on the American Government in this matter will be increasing in the near future.

[Andrianov] At the same time, Vadim Nikolayevich, I suppose one shouldn't forget that in November of this year, the United States will be holding their mid-term elections, in which 1/3 of the senators and all the members of the House of Representatives will be up for re-election. So election candidates throughout the country will have to answer a great many questions on foreign policy. And they'll have to take a definite stand -- for or against the nuclear arms race.

Growing Antiwar Movement

[Nekrasov] Yes, you're quite right. And what is significant is how rapidly and impetuously the mass antiwar movement has suddenly begun to develop in the United States. Last autumn we saw the movement spread to one West European country after another. At that time, the press estimated that there were more than 2 million people taking part in the mass demonstrations. In fact, it may have been more. Then came a quieter period -- not a decline, but a lull. Across the ocean they began to hope that the movement was gradually beginning to peter out. But then in April we witnessed another wave of such demonstrations, mass marches, large meetings, petitions and conferences of various kinds. And this variety of forms of action reflects the new stage it has reached, spreading now not only throughout West Europe, but also to Japan, Canada, Australia and -- most significantly -- to the United States itself. According to the latest U.S. opinion polls -- the most recent was carried out by NBC television jointly with AP -- as many as 74 percent of U.S. citizens were now in favor of freezing nuclear weapons and of curtainling their accumulation.

[Andrianov] Vadim Nikolayevich, perhaps one should note the most remarkable feature of the antiwar, antinuclear movement that is now developing in the United States: More and more Americans -- including well-known military men and politicians -- disagree with Washington's official thesis that there'a a lack of equilibrium in the military sphere between the Soviet Union and the United States. The American citizens' Organization for a Sane World recently circulated a booklet entitled "Lethal Balance -- the Correlation of American-Soviet Military Power." It quotes, inter alia, a statement by the former U.S. Ambassador to the USSR, George Kennan; ever since the cold war began, just over 30 years ago, exaggerated assertions have been constantly put forward about the military power of the Soviet Union and the weakness of America; yet every time it has turned out that in reality the United States is not lagging behind the USSR in any military sphere. The booklet also quotes a passage in the annual report of the U.S. Defense Department for 1982, which states: Although the era of U.S. superiority is long past, what has replaced it is parity, not any lagging behind by the United States. Both the United States and the Soviet Union are roughly equal in their strategic nuclear might.

As you can judge for yourselves, this is a highly authoritative statement. And yet Washington is clearly not planning to remove the myth of the Soviet threat from its propaganda arsenal. The Reagan administration continues to have recourse to it, it continues to use this concoction, but, by all accounts, many people on the other side of the Atlantic are already sick and tired of it. And it is noteworthy that the American public is joining the U.S. antiwar movement on an ever-increasing scale. Here, in the opinion of Senator Hart, a Democrat, are the reasons for this phenomenon. This senator, a prominent member, so to speak, of the Senate Armed Services Committee, believes that the antiwar movement is a response to the policies of the Reagan administration, which does not want to continue pertinent talks on arms control, goes to reckless lengths in building up its nuclear arsenal, believes that nuclear superioity is possible and advances the doctrine of limited nuclear war.

Official Washington does all this to the accompaniment of verbiage about peace. However, demagogy of this sort no longer convinces anyone. Antiwar demonstrators in the United States are calling on the White House to back up its professed ardor for peace with specific, positive actions, since no one but the Reagan administration bears responsibility for the dangerous tension which has arisen in the world. As they become more and more acutely aware of the catastrophe which a war in present-day circumstances would entail, broad sections of the American public and infleuntial politicians are calling for urgent practical measures to improve the international situation. Naturally, one should not underestimate the influence being exerted on the development of a suitable political atmosphere in the West by the fact that the Soviet Union consistently and purposefully demonstrates its sincere willingness to curb the arms race.

[Nekrasov] Against the background of those major problems and events which are connected with the prospects of war and peace on a worldwide scale, we are witnessing a whole series of local conflicts: some acute, some less acute, some limited -- if one can use that word in this context -- and some dangerous in the sense that they could spread. One such conflict in recent weeks, during April as a matter of fact, has been the conflict between Argentina and Britain over the Falkland Islands, or the Malvinas, as the Argentines call them.

Falkland Islands Dispute

[Volskiy] Yes, in 3 weeks it has assumed scope which would have been difficult to suppose initially. I think it would be pointless to make forecasts about an outcome, but one can already draw certain conclusions.

First, Britain's policy in this conflict has demonstrated that British imperial traditions and ambitions have not died out in the least with the long since fallen empire, as might have appeared recently.

The ruling class is fostering the traditions of the past. We can see this manifested not only in the policies of Thatcher, not just Conservatives, but also the other bourgeois parties, including a considerable proportion of the Labor Party, although, admittedly, Labor's leftwing, like the communists and many peace camapigners, condemn the outburst of chauvinism in the British Isles. But it has proved difficult to fight -- it embraces quite broad sections of the population, and the conservatives are now attempting to use this as the basis for their endeavors to consolidate themselves in power. They are portraying themselves and the British fleet -- they base their propaganda on this, in particular -- as defenders of the inhabitants of the Malvinas Islands, or the Falkland Islands.

[Andrianov] You are quite right, Dmitriy Antonovich, the British propaganda machine is now being put into top gear to present the dispatch of the naval armada to the Falklands Islands, or Malvinas, in a noble light, and to ascribe to it a highly humane mission. They wish to create for the British fleet the image of a valiant knight allegedly rushing to the aid of the inhabitants of the archipelago who are in distress, is evident. But in Buenos Aires, the correspondent of the British paper FINANCIAL TIMES reports that it thought that far from knightly motives dictated sending the British naval armada to the Falklands. The British journalist cites the statements of an Argentine military spokesman who stated clearly that Margaret Thatcher is concerned with remaining in power and not the fate of the islanders. And indeed, does the British Conservative Government really care about the lives of these people if it has declared its readiness to make the Falkland Islands region a war zone?

[Volskiy] I would put it this way, Boris Vasilyevich: Precisely those people who have the greatest interest in a peaceful resolution, a just resolution of this conflict, are those very inhabitants of the Falkland Islands. They have no interest whatever in having the islands turned into a war zone, which is what the policy of the British Government is leading to.

And here is one more thing the present conflict has shown. It has of course shown the deep division between the West and the developing countries. As for the United States, it is in a particularly complex situation; since Washington, as you know, has major interests and imperialist impulses in Latin America, it is awkward for it to quarrel with the Latin Americans. Nevertheless, the United States is more and more firmly and clearly leaning toward the side of London every day the crisis develops. The shuttle trips by U.S. Secretary of State Haig showed this quite clearly, and the British paper, THE GUARDIAN wrote, and I quote: Haig has made it clear to the Argentine Government that if -- as he put it -- the chips were down, America would take the British side.

[Andrianov] In this connection, Dmitriy Antonovich, I would like to mention a report by a BBC correspondent in Buenos Aires. In his words, the answer Haig got was this: If war breaks out in the South Atlantic, a share of the blame will belong to the U.S. secretary of state.

[Volskiy] One could agree with this, as the Americans support only a settlement on terms corresponding to the interests of the global strategy of the United States. I do not think it is necessary to explain that Britain is a close NATO ally of the United States, or that the United States has striven and continues to strive to make Argentina its ally too, and use it in its policies. This has been felt especially in the last few months, perhaps, when attempts by American diplomacy were activated to create a sort of branch of NATO in the South Atlantic, the so-called South Atlantic bloc -- SAOT in its abbreviated form: they had already throught up a name for it.

[Andrianov] In the Western press these days, plenty of material is appearing which dramatizes the atmosphere around the Anglo-Argentine conflict. Take, if you will, the article by Gwertzman, published in the New York TIMES this week.

Even the title does not lack pretentions: "Washington Too Has High Stakes in the Game Over the Falkland Islands." According to the author of the article, if Haig's diplomatic missions are not crowned with success, the British public may shift to a hostile stance toward the United States, and further, as Gwertzman asserts, a failure of American diplomacy could lead to the isolation of the United States from Europe and this in turn could heighten tension over the deployment of nuclear weapons in Europe. Sketching such a hypothetical scheme, the American observer concludes that essentially the Falklands problem has become a test of the Reagan administration's ability to be the leader of NATO and the alliances of the United States in the Western Hemisphere.

[Volskiy] That diplomacy, Boris Vasilyevich, wants to pass its test by making various insinuations about Soviet policy concerning the Falklands crisis.

[Andrianov] Quite so, quite so. And that's why I think it appropriate to give an example of how British diplomacy is conducting itself less than correctly, not to put it too strongly, in connection with the conflict over the Falkland -- Malvinas -- Islands. The example is quite typical, to my mind. According to UPI reports from Washington, the British ambassador to the United States, Sir Nicholas Henderson, gave a television interview about a week ago to the cable network news service. This British diplomat said literally the Soviet Union, will insist on the granting of military bases to it on the Falkland Islands if Argentina is victorious in its confrontation with Britain. And to make this fabrication look more or less credible, Henderson was so bold as to assert that the Russians would allegedly insist on one favor in return for another from Argentina, in exchange for the supply of intelligence data, and, developing his utterly wild idea -- taking it to completely absurd lengths -- the British ambassador exclaimed with a note of feigned tragedy in his voice: I can imagine what would happen if Soviet bases or Soviet military installations appeared on the Falkland Islands, which for 150 years have been the gates to the South Atlantic. If they suddenly fell into the hands of the Soviet Union, or began to be used by it, that would be a very serious matter. Of course, the British ambassador could have expressed himself more briefly, by crying "Help! Save us! The hand of Moscow is reaching for the Falklands!"

In this connection, Henderson -- and not only he -- should be advised above all to take a drink of cold water, to calm himself down and cool his fevered imagination. More so since the Argentine ambassador to the United States, Esteban Takacs, has stated for all to hear, in another television interview, that his country has not asked the Soviet Union for any intelligence data, and is not receiving any. Thus the Argentine diplomat has refuted categorically the main argument of the British ambassador to the United States. Nevertheless, this example shows what malodorous pies with provocative filling are being baked in the kitchen of British diplomacy, in the obvious expectation that such unsavory concoctions will find customers.

[Volskiy] Well, Boris Vasiliyevich, what those same British diplomats and many of their allies know well enough, is that not the Soviet Union, but the United States is trying to get its hands on the Falkland Islands -- in practice, not just in words. Hence the plans to set up some tripartite administration, with the participation -- or rather, under the control -- of the United States. A plan has even emerged for stationing a so-called multinational force on the islands -- or multilateral as they call it. This project is clearly copied from the multinational force on the Sinai Peninsula, the backbone of which is made up of American Airborne Rangers.

Israeli Withdrawal From Sinai

[Andrianov] Dmitriy Antonovich, today happens to be the date by which, under the Camp David agreements, the Israeli occupation troops have to withdraw from Sinai, where they are to be replaced by the so-called multinational force which you mentioned. Three days before that, the Israeli Air Force carried out a barbaric bombing of Beirut and other Lebanese towns -- committed another act of brigandage as it was described in the TASS statement of 22 April. Is this a coincidence?

[Volskiy] Here's what I have to say about it, Boris Vasilyevich: The bombing of Lebanon, and above all of the Palestinian camps, where it resulted in particularly numerous casualties, was undertaken just an hour after the Israeli Cabinet passed its resolution to carry out by today the agreement on withdrawal of the units remaining at its disposal in Sinai. Observers assumed the possibility of aggressive actions, unexpected moves on the part of the Israeli Government, even including a last-minute refusal to withdraw Israeli troops from Sinai. Meanwhile, American soldiers -- not just soldiers, but soldiers from the 82d Airborne Division, which is already well-known for its punitive operations in Latin America, including the Dominican Republic, in the sixties. These units had already taken up their position in Sinai as part of the multinational force, without even waiting for the Israeli occupation force to pull out. That's a fact that puts one on one's guard, I think. The Pentagon establishes its direct military presence in the Near East, and the Israeli militarists regard this as extra insurance for their own aggressive actions. The arrival of American troops in Sinai is seen by Tel Aviv as an even more important form of support than deliveries of arms and the constant American vetoing in the Security Council of resolutions condemning Israel; so the coincidence you spoke of is clearly not fortuitous. Begin, and especially General Sharon, his defense minister, feel that their freedom of action has been increased. In particular, they consider -- and this is very important -- that the stationing of the Americans in Sinai will block any attempt by Egypt -- if the post-Sadat leadership should wish to do so -- to give support to the Palestinians, Lebanese or Syrians in the event of a major attack on them by Israel. That is why the air raid on Beirut can be seen as not just an isolated action, but a step in preparing for extensive aggression aimed not only against the Lebanese and the Palestinian formations located in that country, but also against Syria. Support for Israel, when its government embarks on an ever more crudely adventurist course, has placed the United States in a position of increasing isolation in the Near East. Washington is alienating even the conservative Arab regimes, which it considers to be its potential allies in the struggle against the liberation movements and in its anti-Soviet policy.

Indian Ocean Conference

[Andrianov] An international conference, "the Indian Ocean -- Zone of Peace," opened in the Indian capital this week. In his message of greeting to those taking part, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stressed that active and energetic actions by all peace-loving states and peoples and all democratic public forces are needed in the struggle to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace. And there is no doubt, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev indicated, that this important problem can be resolved through combined and purposeful efforts.

This problem is, indeed, one of the most topical in the world arena. The activation of U.S. militaristic activities in the Indian Ocean has produced growing military and political tension in this area of the world, and among the peoples of the countries in the region this is giving rise to fully justified alarm about their security. In the situation as it has developed, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries cannot reamin indifferent, since a threat to their security is being created from the south.

Our country consistently supports the proposal for making this region a zone of peace formed by the states situated on the Indian Ocean seaboard. In this connection, it should be recalled that the Soviet Union has repeatedly declared its willingness to continue talks with the United States at any time on limiting military activity in the Indian Ocean region. Additional evidence of our willingness to continue these talks is provided by the new Soviet proposals on the mutual limitation of the operations of navies and the extension of confidence-building measures to seas and oceans, particularly those areas where the busiest sea lanes pass. The whole package of Soviet peaceful initiatives contrasts with attempts by certain circles in the West to vitiate the atmosphere in the world arena and to intensify international tension. It is graphic confirmation of the indisputable fact that, just as in Lenin's time, our foreign policy is an expression of the Soviet Union's peaceful interests toward all countries and peoples on earth.

With that we come to the end of our "Roundtable" program. Thank you for your attention, esteemed comrade listeners. Goodbye and all the best!

BRITISH SHELL SUB, TAKE SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND

UK Cabinet Session

LD251016 Moscow TASS in English 0948 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] London, 25 Apr, TASS -- An emergency meeting of the leading members of the British Conservative Cabinet was held late on Saturday. The meeting discussed the Falklands crisis. According to the British press, the meeting also discussed the question of the beginning of combat operations by the British side in the near future. British Foreign Minister Francis Pym reported the results of his trip to Washington and his talks with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. All indications are, the London SUNDAY TELEGRAPH writes, that Pym directly told Prime Minister Thatcher that London's attempts to find a peaceful solution to the conflict on its own terms were running into considerable difficulties. The minister expressed the conviction, the newspaper points out, that London could compel Argentina accept its terms only by making use of military might.

The SUNDAY EXPRESS writes that several British naval ships have already taken positions in the area of South Georgia Island, currently controlled by Argentina, and are only waiting for an order to start combat operations.

The absence of any degree of flexibility in the stand of the Thatcher government, following Pym's consultations in Washington, bears witness to the fact that the United States, trying to pass itself off as a "peacemaker" in the British-Argentine conflict, has in actual fact firmly sided with its British NATO ally.

UK Seizure of S. Georgia

LD252144 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2000 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] The Anglo-Argentine conflict over the Falklands-Malvinas has taken a dangerous turn: The British Conservative Government has moved on from threats to military action. British naval helicopters attacked an Argentine submarine in the port of Grytviken on South Georgia Island and fired an artillery barrage at the port settlement.

The British Defense Ministry reported that British troops have begun landing on South Georgia.

Argentine Foreign Minister Costa Mendez stated to journalists in New York that Argentina is technically at war with Britain.

Nott Statement

LD252330 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2230 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Units of the British Armed Forces, which have arrived in the South Atlantic via the naval strike force have landed on the island of South Georgia. This was reported by the British Ministry of Defense.

According to British radio and television reports, this action was preceded on 22 April by the landing on the island of a special diversionary group which transmitted to the ships reconnaissance data concerning the number and armaments of the Argentine forces on South Georgia.

England is in practice in a state of war with Argentina, a BBC observer stressed in this connection. The British defense secretary, John Nott, declared that British Armed Forces had seized the island of South Georgia. In his words, the Argentine garrison on the island had surrendered after offering resistance. Nott confirmed that during the first phase of this operation British helicopters in the region of South Georgia had shot at and damaged an Argentine submarine.

British Capture Leith

LD260932 Moscow TASS in English 0914 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] London, 26 Apr, TASS -- Britain's expedition corps has succeeded in capturing the second strong point of Leith in the course of the fighting on the island of South Georgia between Argentine units and British troops. This has been reported by the British Defence Ministry today. As is known, the British troops landed on the island yesterday, having subjected it to artillery bombardment.

PRAVDA Reaction

LD252156 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2117 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 26 Apr (TASS) -- The attempts being undertaken at the present time by the Government of Great Britain to solve the dispute over the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands by military means are nothing other than the pursuit of the irretrievably past imperial might of Great Britain. PRAVDA writes this today, commenting on the events in the South Atlantic.

In the opinion of Western specialists, the paper notes, the British naval strike force is capable of inflicting serious damage on the Argentine fleet in brief military action. However if such action should be of a prolonged nature, the British may meet with great difficulties in logistical support for their forces.

One cannot discount either the extremely unfavorable weather conditions in this region where winter is setting in.

U.S. OFFICIALS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR BRITAIN

LD231246 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] The United States will take the side of Britain in case an armed conflict breaks out with Argentina over the Falkland, or Malvinas Islands. According to a REUTER report members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee made the statement in Washington after meeting British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym. The United States is giving active support to the British naval armada heading for the archipelago and supplying it with fuel and intelligence information. The advance detachment of the armada is now 800 miles off South Georgia Island belonging to the Falklands.

U.S. STANCE ON FALKLANDS AFFAIR ASSESSED

LD252030 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 25 Apr 82

[By correspondent Aleksandr Druzhinin]

[Text] An armada of British warships is plowing through the Atlantic Ocean on its way south to the Falklands archipelago, or as the Argentines call them, the Malvinas Islands, In official Washington circles they continue to claim that Britain and Argentina "are our friends." "We are endeavoring to prevent a war in the region of the South Atlantic."

But even American observers close to the government no longer believe in Washington's impartiality. And can anyone believe it? The United States is rendering assistance to the British fleet in the Atlantic. British vessels are receiving intelligence from space via American satellites, the Washington press itself is now reporting.

Having covered over 30,000 miles in flights between London and Buenos Aires, U.S. Secretary of State Haig has returned home. Political observers here are saying bluntly that his mediatory mission has ended in failure. It could not have been otherwise. However, since Washington's support is only on the side of its British friends who are demonstrating in the southern Atlantic a classic example of a relapse into the notorious gun-boat policy. [as received]

As far as Argentina is concerned, it evidently could not count on sympathy from the United States.

At Argentina's request, a session of the Organization of American States is now examing the question of applying the so-called Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance which makes it encumbent upon all the countries of North and South America, including the United States, to come to the assistance of any member of the organization subjected to an attack. At their first session the participants adopted a decision to continue discussion of this problem in the near future. Who abstained in the voting on this decision? Naturally the United States, showing once again how far its declarations about love for peace are at variance with its deeds.

ARGENTINE CP SECRETARY ON FALKLANDS CRISIS

PY242355 Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 2300 GMT 23 Apr 82

[From the "Argentine Week" feature]

[Text] Athos Fava, secretary general of the Argentine Communist Party, arrived in Moscow yesterday and participated in the special reception held at the Kremlin's Palace of Congresses to mark the 112th birthday of Vladimir Ilich Lenin.

After the ceremony, where he was on the podium with the leaders of the Soviet state and the CPSU, Athos Fava talked to the press. The Argentine Communists, Fava said, consider that the events of 2 April have great national and international implications, and that they will have a place in Argentine history regardless of who undertook them and regardless of the special circumstances in which they took place.

At the latest meeting of our Political Commission, we noted that the recovery by the Argentines of a colonial enclave after almost 150 years of British dominion is a truly anti-imperialist accomplishment. It cannot be viewed in any other way, even considering the intentions of those who carried it out. And it is all the more so when one takes into account the imperialist maneuvers that were afoot regarding the Malvinas and the entire Argentine southern region. Such maneuvers were aimed at incorporating the entire region into the worldwide belligerent strategy of imperialism aimed at blocking or slowing down the struggle for liberation of peoples.

Asked whether that plan was already under way, Fava said: [begin recording] In fact, that vast and sinister plan of U.S. imperialism could, in my view, be implemented by establishing military bases in the Malvinas or other sites in the Argentine southern region. Furthermore, while exploiting the natural resources, it could transform Patagonia, the Malvinas and Southern Sea region into a NATO strategic area through a belligerent pact in the South Atlantic. In that context, the reassertion of our sovereignty over the Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands came as a surprise, which actually disturbed such a plan, in my opinion. Hence the obvious British-U.S. indignation at what they consider an inconsiderate attitude on the part of Argentina.

[Question] Could you tell us about your trip to the Soviet Union.

[Answer] As we have always done we have decided to travel through various countries to explain the position of the Argentine Communists regarding this situation. So we held an important meeting in Paris with Comrade (Maxime Grimet), who is secretary of foreign relations of the French Communist Party, to express to him that the rejection of British colonial aggression is unanimously supported by the Argentine people. On that occasion I also pointed out that our people are, at the same time, intensifying their struggle for democratic freedoms, for fundamental changes in the economic and social policy and for a return to constitutional rule.

During the interview with Comrade (Grimet) and in a press communique later, the French Comminist Party pledged its solidarity with the struggle of the Argentine people in repudiation of the British colonial aggression.

We also had an important meeting with the British communist Party in which the British comrades manifested their internationalist solidarity with the just anticolonial demands of the Argentine people. As a result of this, and as solid demonstration of that solidarity by putting words into action, the British comrades told us they will stage a demonstration in the streets of London next Monday to demand a peaceful solution. [end recording]

Athos Fava was questioned as to whether, apart from what he had already mentioned, there were other pronouncements abroad on the Malvanas question.

[Begin recording] In fact, we know of several pronouncements by congresses and several governments of Andean Pact countries. For instance, the Argentine people have received -- and have appreciated -- the support of the fraternal Republic of Cuba, whose ambassador, Emilion Aragonez Navarra, stated in Buenos Aires his full support for the Argentine claim to the Malvinas. There were identical reactions among the Argentine people to the communique made public by the Nicaraguan Government stating its support, as well as that of the Governments of Panama, Peru and others.

It is encouraging for the workers and the people in general that the Communist Party of the United States, the Popular Vanguard Party of Costa Rica, the Communist Party of Uruguay, the Communist Party of Paraguay, the Communist Party of Venezuela, and others have assumed attitudes that are equally in favor of respect for the fights of the Argentine people and equally denounce the maneuvers of British and U.S. imperialism. [end recording]

Asked about that course of action the communists proposed for the solution to the conflict, Athos Fava explained:

[Begin recording] I repeat that we decidedly are and will back the only just course of action: namely, that of peaceful negotiations. At the same time, and for the reasons that I have noted before, we contend that the United States is not the best mediator in such negotiations. Therefore, in our view, the best thing to do is to permit the intervention of international organizations, especially that of the United Nations and its secretary general. [end recording]

Asked about the propositions of the Argentine Communists in this situation, Fava replied: We believe that real national unity requires the creation of an emergency provisional system permitting the active participation of all political parties, excluding none, as well as the participation of the different social organizations, especially the labor movement.

In a few words, Fava said, the course must be changed completely and without wasting time. A national democratic agreement has to be established, containing, among other propositions, commitments to lift the suspension of political and labor activities, to release all those who are in prison for political or labor militancy, to lift the state of siege, to solve the problem of missing persons, and to permit full exercise of democratic freedoms. It is also imperative, Fava noted, to substantially modify the economic policy and to improve the standard of living of the people. And in addition to all this, Fava emphasized, precise dates must be set for an electoral process to reestablish popular sovereignty.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON RESULTS OF USSR-JAPAN TALKS

OW240413 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] A Soviet-Japan roundtable conference which had been held for 3 days in Tokyo came to an end on 22 April. Moscow radio's Tokyo correspondent, Vladimir Tsvetov, files the following report on the results of the roundtable conference:

The roundtable conference advanced a slogan calling for the development of Soviet-Japanese relations through dialogue, and it is safe to assume that the more than 500 representatives of public opinion from the two countries carried out this aim. Dialogue was held on world peace and disarmament, political and economic relations and scientific and cultural exchanges between the Soviet Union and Japan, the role of mass media in strengthening peace and friendship among people of different countries, and other matters. The dialogue was a broad and constructive one. People whose views or ideologies are not only different, but also often diametrically opposed reached a unanimity of opinion on a number of matters.

The representatives of public opinion from the two countries stated the following in their joint communique:

Believing that to defend peace today is the most important task common not only to the people of the Soviet Union and Japan, but also to all people of the entire world, the conferees came to the conclusion that an appropriate method of accomplishing this task is to limit and reduce armaments now, with the eventual goal of totally abolishing them, and to totally ban nuclear, neutron, chemical and all other mass-destruction weapons. They also expressed their support for all ideas aimed at establishing state relations of reciprocity and equality in Asia based on the principles of peaceful coexistence, particularly establishing relations of mutual trust, strengthening the security of nonnuclear countries and preventing nuclear proliferation in the Far East, the communique says.

Differing views were stated at the conference on some questions relating to a study of ways to improve Soviet-Japanese relations. However, at the same time, the participants recognized the weighty significance of establishing Japanese-Soviet relations on the firm basis of a treaty to develop them. The joint communique states as follows: The two governments were called upon to come to the negotiation table at once, establish the widely recognized principles of international relations between states having different political systems, and begin consultations conducive to progressing toward the conclusion of a peace treaty between the two countries. At the same time, they agreed to appeal to the opinion of the two countries to exert unstinted efforts for developing friendly, cooperative relations between the Soviet Union and Japan.

The conferees confirmed that to strive for developing and strengthening Soviet-Japanese relations would benefit both countries in all areas and is an indispensable factor in strengthening peace and security in Asia as well. The participants vowed to continue efforts to prevent the lowering of the level of relations already attained between the Soviet Union and Japan and to reduce discords in opinion.

The conference participants reached complete accord on the fact that the two countries have much work to do and that it is becoming increasingly necessary to deepen mutual understanding through the expansion of creative cultural, academic and journalistic exchanges and to promote friendly activities, including sports and tourist exchanges. In the area of economic exchanges in particular they agreed to strive for the conclusion of a long-term intergovernmental agreement, at the same time, judging that anti-Soviet economic sanctions adopted in the course of the latest deterioration of the international environment are hampering the development of Soviet-Japanese economic relations, they determined to strive to annul them.

At the end of the joint communique the two delegations stressed the effect and usefulness of their dialogue and stated that it had been agreed to hold the next roundtable conference, the fourth, in Moscow.

ROMANOV LEADS CPSU DELEGATION TO LAO CONGRESS

LD241638 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] A CPSU delegation left Moscow for Vientiane today to participate in the work of the congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP]. The delegation was invited to attend the congress by the LPRP Central Committee. It is headed by Comrade Romanov, Politburo member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Comrade Gorbachev, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other senior workers.

Arrival in Vientiane

LD251330 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0836 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Vientiane, 25 Apr (TASS) -- A CPSU delegation headed by G.V. Romanov, Politburo member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Leningrad Obkom, arrived in Vientiane today at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party to take part in the Third LPRP Congress.

The delegation was met at the capital's Wattay Airport by President Souphanouvong of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Politburo member of the LPRP Central Committee, P. Vongvichit, Politburo member of the LPRP Central Committee and deputy prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; S. Keobounphan, secretary of the LPRP Central Committee, and other officials.

Also among the greeting party was V.F. Sobchenko, the Soviet ambassador to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, who is a member of the CPSU delegation.

LPRP, CPSU Delegations Meet

LD252326 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1827 GMT 25 Apr 82

[By TASS correspondents V. Petrunya, V. Kirsanov and A. Yerovchenko]

[Text] Vientiane, 25 Apr (TASS) -- A conversation took place here today between Kaysone Phomviahan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and a delegation from the CPSU led by G.V. Romanov, Politburo member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom. The delegation is here to take part in the work of the Third LPRP Congress.

Taking part in the meeting were, on the Lao side, Nouhak Phoumsavan, Politburo member and secretary of the LPRP Central Committee; Souphanouvong, Politburo member of the LPRP Central Committee and president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; Phoumi Vongvichit, Politburo member of the LPRP Central Committee; Khamtai Siphandon, Politburo member of the LPRP Central Committee; Phoun Sipaseut, secretary of the LPRP Central Committee; Sisomphon Lovansai, Politburo member and secretary of the LPRP Central Committee; Sisavat Keobounphan, secretary of the LPRP Central Committee; Khamsouk Saignaseng, member of the LPRP Central Committee; and Vanthong Sengmuang, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Present on the Soviet side were V.S. Murakhovskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Stavropol Kraykom, and V.F. Sobchenko, USSR ambassador to the LPDR.

The CPSU delegation conveyed to the leaders of the LPRP Central Committee friendly greetings from the CPSU Central Committee and personally from Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, expressed gratitude for the invitation to take part in the work of the Third LPRP Congress, and wished them success in the holding of the congress. The leaders of the LPRP for their part asked that friendly greetings be conveyed to Comrade L.I. Brezhnev and to all the Soviet people, and wishes for new successes in implementing the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and in carrying out the most important foreign policy initiatives of the Soviet Union.

The participants exchanged opinions on the state and prospects for the development of ties between the CPSU and the LPRP, and on a number of other topical questions of Soviet-Lao relations and the international situation.

During the meeting, the mutual striving of both sides was stressed to make the multisided cooperation between the USSR and the LPDR more useful and effective to the maximum. The great significance was noted of the solidarity of the socialist community, of communist and workers' parties, of all peace-loving forces in the struggle for peace and international security.

The talk took place in a warm, comradely atmosphere with full agreement of views on all issues discussed.

The CPSU delegation gave the Third LPRP Congress a gift from the CPSU Central Committee -- a portrait of Vladimir Ilich Lenin by the artist V.I. Khabarov. Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan was presented with a painting by the artist O.L. Lomakin depicting the presentation to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev of the highest order of Laos -- the Gold Medal of the Nation.

NOVOYE VREMYA PREDICTS FALL INVASION OF INDOCHINA

LD232010 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] The Soviet weekly NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMYA] has said intensive preparations are underway for an invasion in Indochina. Analyzing Western press reports, the magazine concludes that an invasion of American mercenaries backed by the Chinese Army is scheduled for autumn when the rainy season will be at its end. The intervention will begin in Laos. It will be coordinated with the attacks of Pol Pot men in Kampuchea and Chinese pressure on the border of Vietnam. One of the main preparation zones for the move is the military camp (Xinyao) in Yunnan Province in South China.

USSR, SRV SIGN SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL AGREEMENT

PM221405 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 82 p 4

[TASS report: "Agreement Signed"]

[Text] Hanoi, 19 Apr -- A long-term agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union was signed today in Hanoi. It provides for the further strengthening and development of cultural and scientific contacts between the two countries. The content of the document stems from the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and the SRV signed in 1978.

The new agreement provides for the continued training of qualified specialists in the Soviet Union under the auspices of the USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, the broad exchange of delegations of cultural figures and scientists, the exchange of experience and the carrying out of joint work.

20,000 Vietnamese Trained

LD192038 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Apr 82

[Text] Vietnam and the Soviet Union signed a long-term agreement on cultural and scientific exchanges. Their contacts in these fields have been steadily growing for 30 years. In this period the Soviet Union has trained nearly 20,000 Vietnamese to work in various economic, scientific and cultural spheres.

PZPR HOLDS PLENUM ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

LD231624 Moscow TASS in English 1603 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Warsaw, 23 Apr, TASS -- The 8th plenum of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, devoted to economic problems, is under way here. It is being chaired by first secretary of the PUWP Central Committee Wojciech Jaruzelski. Alternate member of the Political Bureau of the PUWP Central Committee, secretary of the PUWP Central Committee Marian Wozniak delivered a report of the Political Bureau of the PUWP Central Committee "For Consistent Implementation of the Decisions of the 9th PUWP Congress on Overcoming the Crisis, Introducing Economic Reform and Consolidating the Principles of Social Justice".

Janusz Obodowski, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, made a report on the government's activity.

The leaders of the allied parties Roman Malinowski, chairman of the main committee of the United Peasants' Party, and Edward Kowalczyk, chairman of the Central Committee of the Democratic Party, members of government, economic leaders and workers in science are taking part in the plenum.

Plenum's Conclusion

LD241122 Moscow TASS in English 1105 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Warsaw, 24 Apr, TASS -- The 8th plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party (PZPR) held on April 22-23 has ended its work here. The meeting discussed the tasks of the party in the sphere of the economy. Reports heard at the plenary meeting, and the discussions that followed appraised the present economic situation and stressed the leading role of party organisations in production and in speeding up processes which help surmount existing difficulties. It was noted at the plenary meeting that one of the most important tasks of the party is broad propaganda of the principles and aims of the economic reform being introduced.

Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, made a concluding speech at the meeting. The participants in the plenary meeting unanimously adopted a resolution on the question discussed.

KULIKOV COMMENTS ON SOVIET-HUNGARIAN EXERCISE

PM231535 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Apr 82 p 1

[Correspondent Lt Col R. Zvyagelskiy reportage "From the Joint Command Staff Exercises": "Shoulder to Shoulder"]

[Excerpts] As already reported in the press, joint command staff exercises are taking place on Hungarian territory, with the participation of Soviet Army and Hungarian People's Army staffs.

"Marker subunits [podrazdeleniya oboznacheniya] of the Soviet Army and the Hungarian People's Army which are taking part in the joint command staff exercises," Marshal of the Soviet Union V. Kulikov, commander, Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces and leader of the exercises, said, "have demonstrated a high standard of firing training, cohesion, mutual understanding and the ability to operate correctly and orient accurately in a complex tactical situation. Commanders and staffs showed a high level of training in the control of subunits. Collaboration with air forces was organized reliably, which did much to promote the most effective fulfillment of combat training tasks."

The marker subunits' operations were observed by Hungarian Defense Minister Army General L. Czinege; Army General A. Gribkov, chief of staff, Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces; Col Gen M. Sobolev, deputy chief, Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and Maj Gen I. Horvath, first deputy chief, Hungarian People's Army Main Political Directorate.

'STUDIO NINE' ADDRESSES MIDDLE EAST ISSUES

LD241906 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Studio Nine program presented by Valentin Zorin, television and all-union radio political observer, with Karen Nersesovich Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, Yevgeniy Maksimovich Primakov, director of the Oriental Studies Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences]

[Text] [Zorin] Good evening, comrades. We are meeting for the traditional monthly program in Studio Nine at the Ostankino television center to talk about urgent problems in world politics. Today the guests of Studio Nine are Prof Karen Nersesovich Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and Academician Yevgeniy Vasilyevich Primakov, director of the Oriental Studies Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

As you know, we try in our conversations in Studio Nine to consider the most urgent and important problems of world policy and there are many such problems in today's world. While choosing the subjects of today's conversation we have decided to dwell in detail not just simply on one of the more important and urgent subjects, not only on one of the international crisis situations, but on the situation whose distinctive feature, apart from its urgency and rather dangerous consequences for the cause of peace, is the fact that it has been a painful point in world policy for more than 25 years. Some crises come and some go, but much of what worried people, what caught their attention, is today no longer food for the newspapers or magazines but for historical research.

The situation in the Near East still remains the most acute situation and most urgent crisis in world politics. For example, we can say that in recent days the front pages of the world press carry matters connected to events around the Falkland Islands do not want to belittle the importance and urgency of this crisis. However, I must say that what is happening, including in the most recent days, in the Near East region is not only very acute but cannot be pushed aside by any, even the most urgent, the most sensational and acute events.

Middle East Situation

Our mail at Studio Nine has included a large number of letters from people who ask us to analyse the Near East problems. There are many questions but the main ones can be reduced to three groups. Primarily the comrades ask for what reasons the Near East has remained one of the most dangerous and explosion-prone regions of the modern world for the past 30 years. Why is it the Near East? Second, why in spite of the enormous efforts does it still remain impossible to find an acceptable and constructive solution to this problem? Finally, are there ways to solve this problem after all? I think it would be correct if our conversation concentrated on these questions. I would like to begin with a request for you, Karen Nersesovich, to tell us, if only birefly, how the negative influence of the Near East situation reflects on the situation in that region of the globe and on the international situation as a whole.

[Brutents] Although the Near East conflict is regional in the geographical sense, in the political sense and in its consequences it has a much wider application, a much wider importance. It has a serious negative influence not only in the regional but in the international sense. In recent years this conflict has frequently brought the world to the brink of very serious complications. In fact this undermines international security and is a constantly feverish hotbed. Thus it is a serious danger to universal peace which originates in this region of the globe.

However, this conflict costs and has cost the peoples and countries of this region dearly. It has already left a heavy impression on their lives and fates. Primarily, naturally one must speak of the Palestinian people, of the Lebanese people.

The Palestinian people are in fact a wandering people. But of almost 4 million Palestinians, 1.23 million live under occupation, 1.8 million are counted as refugees and 650,000 live in Palestinian camps under terrifying inhuman conditions where a second generation of Palestinians have already been born and live.

The tragedy of the Lebanese people is also there. For the 8th year Lebanon is bleeding, the people live under conditions of the nightmare of constant war and they have the Sword of Damocles constantly over them. This is the threat of Israel's military blows which are possibly any day and at any hour.

The conflict has had a negative influence in the internal development of many Arab states, on their social and economic progress. It is very obvious now after many years. The reason is that their attention has been concentrated on problems of conflict and enormous means were diverted from peaceful targets, from peaceful needs. Israel itself has suffered seriously. In fact it became one of the most militarized states in the world; two-thirds of Israel's budget goes for military purposes. An enormous military industry, on Israel's scale, was created. Israel is the seventh largest arms exporter in the world: it sends arms to 40 countries. The total of Israel's exports is $1.7 billion worth of arms as Israel's minister of economy, Meridor, has reported in the 1981-1982 financial year.

[Primakov] I have one more figure which rather eloquently proves the degree of militarization of the Israel economy and the entire social life in Israel. Israel occupies first place in per capita expenditure for military purposes. In 1981 it totalled $1,835 per capita. It exceeds, for example, similar expenses in Italy by 12 times.

[Brutents] Even more figures can be quoted. During this period Israel's foreign debt totalled almost $22 billion by the end of 1980. It is an astronomical figure for such a small state. In fact, it is living on borrowed money and this is the cost paid for militarization of Israel.

Last -- not in importance but last on the list -- the Near East conflict is actively used by imperialism, primarily by U.S. imperialism, to implement its neocolonialist strategy in this part of the world. It must be said that these are the same troubled waters in which they catch their imperialist fish.

So there are more than enough facts proving that this conflict plays a very negative role in the international and in the regional sense.

[Primakov] I would like to add the following to this: You have not mentioned yet, Karen Nersesovich, the world economic ties. This is another very important aspect and a very important index of the harm, I would say even danger, of the Near East conflict. The Near East conflict destabilizes the situation in an extremely important region for the development of the world economy.

[Brutents] Quite right.

[Primakov] In general it is a question of a region which is fantastically rich in oil and which feeds oil to many countries of the world and many continents. I would like to cite just two figures in this connection. About 14 million barrels of oil daily comes out of this region mainly for Western Europe, Japan and the United States. Every 8 minutes one large tanker passes through the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf and back.

[Brutents] This increases even more the danger and the destabilizing influence of this conflict.

[Zorin] It gives this conflict a global character. Well, we have already ascertained that this is perhaps -- not even perhaps but definitely -- the most protracted conflict of all the conflicts which occurred after the war, after World War II. What is the matter?

[Brutents] There are many reasons. Let us begin with the fact that the inveterate character of the conflict and its long record, so to speak the conflict which has resulted in several bloody wars and has created large stores of mutual mistrust and enmity. This already serves as a very important obstacle, and not only psychological, on the path to solving the problem. A definite role seems to be played by the fact that in the Arab world not everyone has similar views on the solution to this problem. There is no basic unity in the Arab states.

But the basic fact is not this. The basic fact which determines the content of the conflict and the perspectives is the position, the aggressive position, of Israel's ruling circles, their course to the annexation of the territories seized in 1967. These territories have been occupied by Israel for 15 years already. The Israeli Government does not hide its intentions toward these territories. Israel's ruling circles have raised the doctrine of the mailed fist toward its Arab neighbors to the rank of state policy. They have conferred on themselves the right to inflict military blows on their territory whenever they feel like it. It must be said that in recent times, in fact, this doctrine of the mailed fist has been held to even more stubbornly by Israel's ruling circles than ever before.

Finally, Israel's Government refuses and does not want to see the obvious. It refuses to recognize the existence of the Palestinian problem, this core of the Near East problem. It refuses to recognize that this problem can only be solved by recognizing the right of this people to self-determination by the creation of an independent state. It refuses to recognize the need for an equal participation at the negotiating table as its only legal representative -- the PLO. This doctrine of the mailed fist is not only immoral, it is completely against the national interests of Israel. The constant increase of tension, the creation of this atmosphere of a beleaguered fortress already makes a considerable part of Israel's population very tired. It has even produced a serious migratory wish.

Recently the Israeli newspaper HA'ARETZ carried out a poll on this question. It showed that about 5 percent of the adult population of Israel intends to emigrate in the near future. Another 6 percent are thinking about it. These figures are double those of 5 years ago.

[Zorin] Karen Nersesovich, what you have said proves, of course, the unreasonable policy of Tel Aviv's public figures. Well, what does this unreasonableness rely on and what nourishes it?

U.S. Middle East Policy

[Brutents] This policy is possible only because it has the direct support and encouragement from the United States. This is proven by numerous facts. It is the United States which supplies Israel with huge shipments of weapons every year. This is combined with large sums in economic aid to keep the Israeli economy afloat. In 4 years, from 1978 to 1981, U.S. military aid for Israel totalled $7.8 billion and the economic aid, $3,145 billion. As we can see these are rather solid sums. Under conditions when Israel's international isolation increases, when world opinion is getting more indignant at the ever more unceremonious actions of Israel's Government -- like the recent events on the Golan Heights -- it is the United States which insures the political shield for Israel. It is they who, at the United Nations and other international forums, prevent the adoption of sanctions against Israel.

[Zorin] What is the interest of the United States in implementing this course?

[Brutents] It is quite a legal question and gives me the opportunity to underline the fact that this support is far from being unselfish. The United States considers and uses Israel as their weapon, as their most important support in conducting their Near East strategy -- an anti-Soviet, anti-Arab and neocolonialist strategy.

[Primakov] To understand the U.S. interest in Israel, I think one should now analyze the process of change in the U.S. strategic thought in recent times under Reagan.

One should have a look at the changes in the emphasis in the oil situation for the United States and their allies. These are two of the main questions. The United States always approached Israel primarily from the point of view of its strategic position and secondly from the point of view of the fact that Israel is in a region which is extremely rich in oil and which was at first a source of enormous profits for U.S. companies. Then, while keeping a considerable share of the profits, the Western world also needs the oil which arrives from this region.

It must be said that under Reagan the emphasis changed slightly. I think one can say that the United States again began to strengthen their positions in some world regions actively and independently with the aid of military forces and the increase in military presence. U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger said that the U.S. strategic concept consists of a hard opposition to the Soviet Union simultaneously on a global and regional level. Such a statement figures in U.S. strategic thought.

At the same time, if we speak of the regional level, at present they are trying to involve the entire Near East in a confrontation against the Soviet Union. The base system which exists here, the constant presence under the guise of multinational forces, all this proves that the United States is increasing its military presence in this region, considering it to be part of the total global springboard for confrontation with the Soviet Union. Naturally this springboard -- both the existing parts, the developing parts and those being built -- fulfill another function for the Americans. It serves the struggle against the national liberation movement or a struggle against all the forces which could in general be considered as potential or real allies of the Soviet Union.

This is one side of the question. The other side of the question, as I have already said, is change of emphasis in the U.S. oil situation. But here I would like to draw our viewers' attention to what I think is an important feature. The United States keeps shouting that vital questions are connected to the Near East, the vital interests of the United States. Of course, none denies that the United States receives oil from here. At the same time the United States' share is just over 2 million barrels; the rest of the oil goes to Western Europe and Japan. The United States has recently reduced the oil consumption through alternative sources and through economizing. At the same time they adopted several measures of a rather serious character in the energy-saving sphere. I think that one cannot say -- with all the importance of this region for the United States in the sense of oil deliveries -- one cannot say that this region has now become one on which the existence of the United States depends, as people imagine.

There is another feature which is rather curious. The United States now, with the help of the Near East situation -- a situation they control, a tension controlled by them -- are trying to hold their West European partners on a tight leash, I would say. They are trying to do it now in particular when Western Europe is nervous, quite rightly nervous, about the U.S. policy of changing West Europe into a springboard for nuclear missiles directed against the Soviet Union. In these conditions they need some kind of tension in the Near East and at the same time tension is used to keep them on a short leash.

[Brutents] I think it would make sense to say a few words about U.S.-Israeli relations. We have already characterized the basic contents. We have said that the United States sees Israel as its weapon in this region. However, it would be too simple to imagine their relations as absolutely harmonious. There are contradictions and divergence of interests. In particular the U.S. flirtation with the conservative and so-called moderate Arab states is connected to the jealous attitude of the Israeli ruling circles. Tel Aviv wishes to be the only favorite of the United States in the Near East. There are also cases when Israel creates too-serious obstacles for the U.S. attempts to put on pro-Arab makeup and open clashes occur, as happened with the annexation of the Golan Heights. Washington's official displeasure was received by Begin by a sharp talk with the U.S. ambassador in which he complained that the United States was attempting to treat Israel like a banana republic.

[Primakov] However, it also happens that Israel treats the United States like a banana republic. This also happens. They have a lever of some influence on the United States.

[Brutents] However, the main thing, naturally, is that all this has a character of a family quarrel, a quarrel which arises and quiets down within a framework and on the basis of a strategic agreement, common targets, and an agreement which was recently formalized in the U.S.-Israeli Strategic Cooperation Treaty.

[Zorin] These quarrels are most frequently overcome because the United States is very interested in Israel as their basic instrument in the Near East. The Israelis understand extremely well that the United States is interested in it and so take advantage of it. A situation arises when it is not the dog wagging the tail, but the tail wagging the dog.

'Zionist' Israeli Lobby

Well, Karen Nersesovich, you mentioned the Israeli lobby in the United States and I would like to say a few words on the subject. There really is such a group in Washington consisting of pro-Israeli figures who are called the Israeli lobby and who exercise a definite influence on Washington's position at various moments towards Israel. In what lies the force of this so-called pro-Israeli lobby? Probably it is not the fact that Zionist circles have powerful positions in big business. These positions exist, but they are weaker than they were before World War II. Probably the main force of these Zionist circles with influence in Washington is primarily that they are a very well-organized group and secondly, that the sum total of all definite concrete circumstances led to the fact that very serious positions in U.S. mass media happen to be under the influence of Zionist groups -- primarily in television and also in some leading newspapers.

Such circles carry out a very concentrated campaign showing something like double loyalty, I would say. On one side they seem to be loyal to the country where they are and on the other side they show an obvious loyalty toward Israel, toward Tel Aviv. Not every U.S. politician who has to conduct an election campaign, let us say, would decide to acquire enemies within the mass media which is abused by these pro-Israel Zionist circles in the United States by exercizing a definite influence on Washington's policy.

However, nevertheless I would say that the basic course of the United States toward Israel and in support of Israel is determined after all not by pressure from the Israeli lobby in Washington but is determined by the basic interests as they are understood by today's Washington leaders concerning the Near East. Well, in connection with the subject of our talk a natural question arises, I think: How do U.S. interests show themselves and how are they reflected in the concrete political situation which now has formed in the Near East?

Israeli Withdrawal From Sinai

It is known that tomorrow, in connection with the Camp David agreement, Israel must withdraw its forces from the Sinai desert on 25 April. Well, there are now many reports about that in the world press, but how does the United States implement its course in connection with the current situation in the Near East?

[Brutents] I must say, with great regret, that the attitude of the United States toward such a responsible and dangerous problem as the Near East conflict is determined fully by that anti-Soviet and anti-Arab strategy. Conventionally speaking Washington's double line comes from this strategy. On the one hand, Reagan is willing to reach a settlement, but a U.S.-type settlement, which will lead to consolidating its position -- including military positions -- in the region, which will contribute to establishing its control over the development of Arab states; the exploitation of their natural resources, which will contribute toward weakening and even undermining their relations with the Soviet Union -- in other words a so-called exclusion of the Soviet Union from the region. On the other hand, and simultaneously, as long as there are no conditions for such a settlement and as a means of creating such conditions, it is conducting a policy which has been mentioned by Yevgeniy Maksimovich, a policy of controlled tension, a kind of situation when there is no war and at the same time there is not even a semblance of peace. [as heard]

It is a well-heated political boiler, whose temperature is to be regulated and controlled by the United States. You will ask what such a line will give the United States. It will have the opportunity to blackmail Arab states through Israel's military bludgeon and to come out at the same time as a peacemaker, mediator and as the carrier of the keys, so to speak, to the settlement of the Near East problem. As you have said Valentin Sergeyevich, really, if tomorrow the Israeli Government does not play some kind of trick...

[Primakov] It is precisely this, if they do not.

[Zorin] Yes.

[Brutents] Let us speak as if it has happened.

[Zorin] As if it will have happened.

[Brutents] The evacuation of Israeli troops from the Sinai Peninsula will be completed. That is not an event of little significance. Western press, Western information organs play it up and are conducting a very noisy campaign around it. Truly, the evacuation of Israeli troops from the occupied Arab territory could have been welcomed with an open heart if at least two questions did not arise in connection with it, questions which I would call decisive and which Western propaganda tries to bypass and push into the shadows.

The first question is: At what price has this been achieved? The price paid was As-Sadat's tutelage over Egypt at the price of his withdrawal of Egypt also from the Arab front opposing the aggressor, thus consolidating Israel's positions and possibilities to conduct a policy aimed at satisfying its main predatory appetites concerning the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, eastern Jerusalem and the Golan Heights.

Multinational Forces

The other part of this price is the return of imperialist forces to Egyptian soil. The irony of fate is that it is happening in the year of the 30th anniversary of the Egyptian revolution in July 1952. It is one of the outstanding national liberation revolutions in the postwar period. The fact that the troops now located in the Sinai are called multinational forces, the fact that they include 500 Fijians or Colombians, a detachment of French medics and four Norwegian staff officers can hardly lead us into confusion. The face of these forces is determined by 1,100 U.S. soldiers, a select battalion of the 82d Airborne Division. I think that this is just a simple landing on Egyptian soil by an advance party of the so-called Rapid Deployment Forces.

[Zorin] What can the consequences be?

[Primakov] Well, the consequences Karen Nersesovich has mentioned the name of the division, the 82d Division. It is very interesting that the soldiers have been taken from that unit. This division is the strike force of the Rapid Deployment Force, this precise division. By the way, the Pentagon has published the scenario of the deployment of these forces. In the first stage that division must land a battalion and that battalion must insure the landing of all the other units. That battalion has now been landed, do you understand? That is the meaning of what the Americans are doing.

[Zorin] That means that the opportunity has been created for landing a large number of units there whenever they consider it to be necessary.

[Primakov] Yes, that is the cornerstone.

[Brutents] For landing troops in a short time when needed.

[Primakov] That is what it is all about and there is another point I would like to talk about. Information has been published about how and where these soldiers will be deployed, the 1,100 selected soldiers as Karen Nersesovich has said, the representatives of that 82d Division. They will take over a 249-km-long sector stretching from Sharm al-Shaikh to Port Eilat, the Israeli port of Eilat. What is interesting is that from this base of operations you can act against Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan -- that is cover all the territories. These units will insure the rapid transfer of U.S. forces considerably larger than these 1,100 men. That is the meaning of the matter.

[Zorin] Thus it is a matter of large-scale mystification. They are trying to make the world believe that steps are being taken to stabilize the situation while in reality a very real step is being taken toward destabilizing the situation in the region and not only in that region.

[Primakov] I would also like to add to that, Valentin Sergeyevich, you see what is happening. According to the Camp David accord and according to the Egyptian-Israeli agreement -- and it is well known that the United States is also a party to the Camp David accord -- the withdrawal of these multinational forces from there is possible only with consent of all.

[Zorin] All.

[Primakov] All, all. What does that mean in practice? Let us suppose such a hypothetical...

[Zorin] All the participants.

[Primakov] All the participants, it is provided for -- Egypt, Israel and the United States. Let us suppose a hypothetical situation. A certain period of time elapses and Egypt says that is enough, we do not want it any more. We want the U.S. troops to withdraw and the United States says no, it is still early. Israel says it is early and Egypt does not have the right to do anything. Thus Egypt becomes involved in a situation of global confrontation which is being implemented by the United States. Is this to Egypt's advantage? Absolutely not. A completely new, basically new situation is being created. In this connection, I think you should not shout hurrah about what has happened at Camp David but hang black flags.

Lebanese Unrest

[Brutents] There is another aspect of the problem which must be examined in order to correctly evaluate what is happening these days. The problem is: Has this brought the Near East closer to peace? Has the region become more calm in this connection? There can only be a negative answer here. These days the attention of the public is drawn to what is happening on the border of Lebanon. There is the possibility of a new annexation action by Israel and this time in the direction of the West Bank. Thus we see that the situation has not improved and that the region has not made a real step toward peace and tranquillity.

[Primakov] That is a very important consideration with respect to the annexation moves of Israel at present. Well, imagine a very academic situation. All were concerned about a possible strike against Lebanon. This danger has not been lifted. It exists and this danger is actually real. There have been speculations that the strike had already been set for a certain date and the date was then postponed. The attention of public opinion has focused on this aspect of the question and then all of a sudden -- in such conditions when they are withdrawing troops, when they are bowing to international public opinion and say that they are peacemakers -- at that precise moment, they do not strike against Lebanon but go on with the annexation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, proclaiming that in one form or another. [as heard] Then the very secret thing becomes evident.

The fact that they are withdrawing their troops from the Sinai is the price they pay for keeping the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. That is the meaning of Camp David. That is the meaning of the deal which was concluded with the aid of the United States.

Arab Unity Examined

[Zorin] I would like to draw your attention, colleagues, to the mail, that section of the mail sent to Studio Nine in which the writers of the letters draw attention to the fact that one of the reasons for the unpunished or rather impudent activity of Tel Aviv is that the Arab states have not managed to create a united front against Israel and the United States, which supports Israel. This has been said in letters to us from (Anatoliy Vadimovich Biryukov), Donbass miner and mining foreman; (Aleksandr Serdyuk), a war veteran in Krasnodarskiy Kray; and many other viewers. The fact that the absence of unity among Arab states is having a negative effect on the political situation in the region raises no doubts, of course. So could you, Yevgeniy Maksimovich, speak briefly on the reasons for this negative phenomenon and then if it can be overcome?

[Primakov] History has shown that the Arab countries are not very homogeneous. They are not honogenous in the economic field, in the level of development of productive forces. They are not homogeneous because of the many different regimes existing in those countries. They are not homogeneous because of different experiences in political struggle. At the same time theArab countries have many things in common which unite them·like the unity of territories, common history to a considerable extent, their common language. Up to the present time Arab countries could not unite. I think that methodologically, so to speak, you can approach the issue, the answer to the question you have asked, by using one of the provisions of the accountability report of the 26th CPSU Congress where it was said plainly that all the developing countries, the liberated countries, are different countries, some of which move along one road while others march along a different road including some that move along the road of imperialist policy.

All this applies fully to the Arab world I think. If you talk about the possibility of uniting the efforts of the Arabs, I think that in this issue you do not have to be historic pessimists, so to speak. Why? Because Arab countries, in the final analysis, have sufficient serious objective prerequisites, as I have already said, for closing their ranks against the dangers which threaten them. This was revealed, as you, Karen Nersesovich, have said, in 1973 when the Arab countries fought in a fairly united manner against Israel, the expansionist policy of Israel and against the United States and acted not only militarily but also politically and economically when the embargo was introduced and so forth. Of course, much has changed since then in the Arab world and processes which have developed cannot be evaluated simply. But I think the prospects for unity are still there and that this is a very important element which will play its role historically.

[Brutents] I would like to add that when we talk about the absence of unity among Arab states we, of course cannot overlook a serious factor like the undermining work of the imperialists. I would say that this is one of the main trends in U.S. policy particularly in this region. This policy erodes in some place; in some other places it creates divergences between Arab countries and states, exploits them actively and, I repeat, is a very serious factor among those who explain the insufficient unity of the Arab states. This is understandable because if the Arab states were united, the Arab peoples would have had a very powerful weapon in the struggle against the consequences of aggression.

[Zorin] I would like to ask you to answer also another group of letters. Many writers say that the absence of realism in Israel's policy gives it a scandalous character, not only for Israel but also for those who support it. Truly, there is a sea of Arab countries with 150 million people and the tiny state of Israel with a population of barely 4 million.

Today with the aid of such a factor as the full and multilateral support of the United States, Israel is afloat. If you look into the future -- 10, 20, 50 years ahead -- how can realistically thinking politicians implement the course which is being followed by Israel. How can realistic politicans support that state? In this connection the question arises: Are there any weak signs of realism in the West connected with the existing situation?

[Brutents] In principle you cannot reject the possibility of the emergence of realistic moments in the policy of the Western powers and even the United States in the Near East problem. This is shown at least by the fact that in the history of recent U.S. policy there has been such a moment of realism. I am talking about October 1977 when the joint U.S.-Soviet statement on the Near East was approved and which was the most important real step toward a settlement or rather a just settlement, a stable settlement and comprehensive settlement, for a number of years. This is why. I repeat, such a possibility cannot be rejected in principle.

It must be assumed that in America there are still clear thinking politicians and the time may come when they will speak their mind. It may apply to a greater extent to Western Europe which feels more acutely in many aspects the complexity of the Near East situation, be it only in connection with its considerably greater dependence on oil supplies from there.

As for Israel, you know the question about what its policy is governed by. It is difficult to answer this question logically as that policy is so illogical. It is possible to say and this is correct that militant nationalism, chauvinism, all that is a direct road toward political blindness. Apparently they are banking that the lack of unity among the Arabs will continue, that the total U.S. support will continue and that the world community will become accustomed, so to speak, to the policy of fait accompli which is being pursued by the Israeli Government. But I think that all that is not prudent.

In any case, up to now Israeli diplomacy has not yet come out with any realistic initiatives, has not demonstrated some kind of realistic approach, primarily because it cannot accept as starting point, the basic principle in current international law of the prohibition of acquiring territory through war, with the use of force.

Future Prospects in the Region

[Zorin] Yevgeniy Maksimovich, I have a question for you. From what we are discussing today, I get the impression that despite the fairly concentrated efforts of Western propaganda to present the question as if Camp David has worked, that some steps have been made toward solving the situation in the Near East, they do not say that it has been solved but they say that the very last events are steps in the positive direction. Yet facts indicate that there is no justification at all for this kind of optimism in the international community. How would you sum up, formulate briefly, the current situation in the Near East, and what are your views on the prospects for the development of the situation in the near future?

[Primakov] That is a correct formulation, because we are discussing the withdrawal of troops, and up to now the three of us have not been able to reach a common conclusion as to whether the withdrawal will be carried out, because in the short term the situation is unstable and complex and various zigzag moves are possible. If you assume that the withdrawl will be effected, it may take place because the United States, as we have said in our discussion, is trying to have it carried out in order to really take into its own hands a number of very important points and at the same time have the possibility of a military presence in the Sinai Peninsula. Well, if that conclusion is correct, what comes next?

I think that the United States, if you can speak about true logic when discussing the current administration, will keep on increasing efforts in the Camp David scheme. What is that?

It will try to detach some other Arab country and attach it to Camp David; it will try to attempt something else in this connection, but in no case will it allow a general settlement of the problem. I would like to say that there are very many unknowns in this, like such an element as Egypt's policy. Egypt emphasizes that it will fully observe all the terms of the Camp David accord, but the naked eye sees that Mubarak is not As-Sadat, that the United States and Israel will not have a partner who will slavishly obey their will at the expense of all national interests as As-Sadat used to do.

Well, this element of uncertainty is there, it exists, and you cannot get away from that. And because of that I think that the American line in this question, the line of the current Reagan administration, is, so to speak, not only not acceptable from the point of view that it leads not to peace, not to general settlement, not toward the stabilization of the situation in the region, but at the same time, and even according to the views of its authors, it is not, so to speak, sufficiently logical or reasoned out.

[Brutents] Yes, that is true, and I agree with Yevgeniy Maksimovich in that it is logical to expect that the withdrawal of troops and the completion of that stage of the Camp David accord will be the starting point for active American efforts in order to start a new stage in the policy following the same direction as Camp David, to organize something like a creeping Camp David, if you can say it like that.

[Primakov] It is a good phrase.

[Brutents] But I think that today, in the light of the real situation, we must also emphasize the other side of the problem. I am thinking about the huge reserves for counteracting this policy, American policy, imperialist policy. These reserves are very great. After our visits to Arab countries each of us can say that never before have anti-American feelings been so strong there. The problem is in the organization, mobilization. American policy has a basic weakness: It is directed against the interests and the independence of these countries, and now it is aimed at taking away from them the gains made by the Arab national liberation movement over 25 years.

USSR Middle East Policy

[Zorin] Well, in conclusion I would like to ask the following question. It is very evident that one of the key elements for solving the Near East problem is the position and the policy of our country. I think that we should conclude our discussion with precisely this question.

[Brutents] Well, Valentin Sergeyevich, I would like to say first of all that we are linked with the region by our principles and our interests in peace, the strengthening of its foundations -- and that is widely known to be dominant in our foreign policy. It is also a matter of the interests of the security of our country. The Near East, especially now with current technical means, is our direct neighbor. There are only a few hundred kilometers from the southern borders of country to the nearest Near Eastern state -- 200 to 250. As to the principles, we are loyal to the line of support for the just cause of the Arab peoples, their national liberation struggle, their struggle for the right to determine the road of their development, to be the masters of their natural resources and decide for themselves with whom to be friends and develop cooperation. And the strengthening of the Soviet-Arab friendship is the line of the Soviet Union.

I have recently visited a number of Arab countries, and one of my main impressions was the unusually high moral and political prestige of the Soviet Union, the high appreciation of the steady interest in the initiative for the convocation of an international conference on the Near East which was submitted by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev at the 26th CPSU Congress. In that initiative and in all our proposals they see an expression of honest interest in the reestablishment of peace in the region, the liquidation of a dangerous hotbed of tension, providing the people of the region with the opportunity to live in calm conditions and direct their energies to constructive deeds. The main characteristic and the main strength of our initiatives and our proposals is their disinterestedness, the carefully weighed and balanced approach taking into consideration the rights and interests of all the participants in the conflict -- without any exception -- the interests of their sovereignty and independence.

Our approach is disinterested, and truly we do not seek any privileges in the Near East. We are not soliciting military bases or spheres of influence and are not after their natural resources. We resolutely reject the American concept according to which it is the zone of confrontation of the superpowers. Such confrontation is not for us; it does not meet the interests of peace; it does not meet the interests of the region.

[Primakov] And for the United States in the final resort.

[Brutents] If you speak about genuine national interests.

[Primakov] In that you are right.

[Brutents] We want what Leonid Ilich Brezhnev noted -- only one thing, a just and stable peace in the Near East. And we want good relations with all the countries of the region. And this also applies to those with whom we have friendship and mutual understanding and to those with whom the relations are not so successful or are absent. This also applies to Israel -- of course, if it gives up the policy of occupation of foreign lands and carries out a policy of peace and not an aggressive policy.

[Zorin] Well, our time is over. All I have to do is to thank our viewers and colleagues for taking part in our discussion. And until we meet again here in Studio Nine, thank you.

SINAI STILL OCCUPIED AFTER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

TASS 'Statement'

LD260532 Moscow TASS in English 0521 GMT 26 Apr 82

["TASS Statement"]

[Text] Moscow, 26 Apr (TASS) -- A farce was staged on April 25. It was performed by the participants in the anti-Arab Camp David deal around the "return" of the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt.

It is believed in the governing circles of the Soviet Union that the "Sinai operation," like other consequences of the Camp David collusion, have nothing in common with the task of the establishment of a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

For Israel not simply returns to Egypt the Sinai captured from it in an aggressive war. Its return has been paid for by the price of As-Sadat's betrayal of the common Arab interests, including, and above all, of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians to self-determination and the establishment of their own state.

Moreover, together with the Sinai, Egypt has received U.S. troops from the gendarme rapid deployment corps. And this means, if one looks into the heart of the matter, that the Israeli occupation of the Sinai is replaced by American occupation, and that the United States will acquire a jumping-off ground for direct interference in the affairs of the states of the Middle East and the adjacent regions.

The character of the "change of guard," carried through on the Sinai, the character hostile to the Arabs, is not in the least weakened by the fact that the shoulder of a U.S. soldier there will be propped up by soldiers of certain countries -- U.S. allies in the North Atlantic bloc. The peoples of the Middle East remember full well the sway of the colonial powers on their soil, and the Arabs know better than anyone else how much effort and time was needed to drive the colonialists out.

Washington and Tel Aviv make no secret of the fact that the replacement of Israeli occupationist troops on the Sinai with American ones does not mean an end to Camp David policy at all. On the contrary, they intend to carry on with redoubled efforts the policy of separate anti-Arab deals.

They want to impose the notorious "administrative self-government" plan on the Palestinians living on the West Bank of the River Jordan and the Gaza Strip, a plan devised in actual fact to prevent the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and to pave the way for the annexation of Palestinian lands by Israel.

The peoples of the Middle East, rejecting these colonialist designs, demand a just and durable peace which would ensure the return to the Arabs of the Arab lands captured by Israel, enable Palestinians to exercise their inalienable right to establish their own state and allow all other states of the region to live in peace and security.

The proposal for the convocation of an international conference with the participation of all the sides concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation, put forward by the 26th Congress of the CPSU, accord with the aspirations of the peoples of the Middle East. This proposal, which can take the cause of mid-Eastern settlement to a realistic and constructive road, still stands.

Effect on Middle East

LD252248 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1730 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The ceremony raising the Egyptian flag over Sharm ash-Shaykh and Rafah took place today. This does not mean that the Sinai Peninsula is liberated from Israeli occupation. We would like to bring to your attention, friends, the fact that the ceremony handing back the Sinai to Egypt by the Israeli aggressor was more than humble. It is significant that the liberation of the Sinai went almost unnoticed by the Arab world. That fact is very symbolic, in my opinion.

The Arabs have every right not to consider the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai a victory for them, for in truth it is the opposite -- it cost them dearly. They are justified in seriously thinking about the consequences of the diligent work of the parties to the Camp David deal because it further distances and obstructs the settlement in the Middle East, in particular the liberation of the Syrian and Palestinian Arab territories which are (?strongly) colonized by Israel.

The statement made today by Israeli Defense Minister Sharon has been attracting attention. He indicated that the withdrawal from Sinai would force Israel to greatly increase the number of its settlements in the land of Judea and Shamaria -- as the West Bank is called in Tel Aviv -- the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights.

In addition to that, events in Lebanon -- against which Israel has started new hostile actions -- indicated that Tel Aviv intended to add other official borders to the ones it obtained in Sinai after agreement with Cairo. The Israeli aggressor has marked its border with Lebanon on its maps along the Litani River: This means that the occupation of the southern regions of a sovereign state has been planned.

Friends, I would like to point out how the aggressor deals with its Egyptian partner in the peace treaty. For example, taking Cairo's ever-present statements about its faithfulness to its defense commitments vis-a-vis the Arab countries, Tel Aviv tested the Egyptian side on 21 April by carrying out a criminal air raid on Lebanon. What happened then? Tel Aviv expressed its full satisfaction at the outcome of the test and withdrew its forces from Sinai.

There is something else which indicates the extent of the aggressor's respect for its Egyptian partner: The destruction of the town of Yamit which was built by the Israelis in Sinai during the years of occupation. The aggressors impudently announced that they obtained desert land from Egypt in 1967 and were leaving the same to them. They did not only destroy the Jewish synagogue.

In my opinion, the most important effect of the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai is limited to Egypt, a part of whose territories has been occupied again, becoming, by virtue of the first official borders and also by the so-called multinational forces -- in principle the forces of the United States -- the major ally of the aggressor and isolated from the Arab world [words indistinct].

Sinai remains, in fact, unprotected from the Israeli side. It would be naive to assume that the multinational forces -- more precisely the U.S. Armed Forces -- which have occupied its positions in Sinai on a permanent basis would take Egypt's side under any circumstances.

Sharon Remarks

LD251846 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] The ceremony of handing back the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt after 15 years of Israeli occupation took place today. The return of Sinai is the price for Cairo's move out of the Arab front which is confronting Israeli's hostile policy. The West Bank of the River Jordan, east Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights remain under Israeli occupation. After their withdrawal from Sinai, the Israeli forces will be replaced by the multinational forces, the main part of which is comprised of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force. In this way the United States gets a bridgehead for its operations in the Middle East.

The Israeli withdrawal from Sinai in accordance with the isolationist Camp David deal will not bring peace to the Middle East and it could lead to greater escalation in the situation -- that was declared by George Habash, a member of the PLO Executive Committee and leader of PFLP, in a statement to the Italian news agency. He pointed out that the main Palestinian problem is still unresolved.

In the meantime, news from Tel Aviv indicates that Israeli Defense Minister Sharon announced that greater efforts would be made from now on to colonize the occupied Arab territories. Israeli schemes to begin construction of 13 military settlements in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan next month alone have become common knowledge.

ISRAELI RAID SIGNALS 'THREAT' TO LEBANON

U.S. 'Blessing'

LD232348 Moscow TASS in English 2113 GMT 23 Apr 82

["Threat Looming Over Lebanon" -- TASS headline; by TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Apr, TASS -- It is reported from Beirut that the Israeli Air Force grossly violated the air space over the city and staged a psychological attack today. Israeli planes followed a pattern in breaking the sound barrier over the city, producing the effect of an incessant bombing raid. At the same time Israeli planes performed reconnaissance flights over Beirut, Tripoli and other population centres. These latest acts of provocation staged by the Israeli Army can only be viewed as a deliberate violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Lebanon and as the continuation of Israel's aggression against the Arab people. It is symptomatic that, as the deadline for the final withdrawal of Israeli troops from Sinai draws nearer, Tel Aviv's armed provocations follow one another and assume ever greater proportions.

A shooting incident at the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, one of the main shrines of Islam, in which Moslems were shot at in cold blood, incessant repressions used by the Israeli invaders in the occupied Arab lands of the West Bank of the Jordan River and in the Gaza Strip and the barbarous bombing of Beirut and other population centres of Lebanon last Wednesday, according to observers, all constitute merely a prelude to the large-scale operations of Tel Aviv against Lebanon that are in the making. A number of Arab leaders predict that the Israeli preparations for large-scale invasion will go into high gear as soon as the Israeli forces leave the Sinai.

With this aim in view Tel Aviv is already today constantly provoking the Lebanese and Palestinian forces into giving Israel an armed rebuff so as to have a pretext for the subsequent raids of the Israeli Armed Forces deep into Lebanon.

The aggressive activities of the Israeli leaders and the stepped-up armed ventures against Lebanon demonstrate to the whole world that the return of Sinai under the Camp David accords, far from helping to achieve a general settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East, conversely, enables the Tel Aviv leaders to use this step to escalate their aggressive activities against the Arab peoples and to expand the war they have been waging incessantly in the Middle East.

Whatever ploys Washington and Tel Aviv resort to, the aggressive character of Israeli imperialism remains unchanged. This is shown by a fresh threat looming over Lebanon. With Washington's blessing, the Israeli leaders are directing their blow at Lebanon so as "to teach another lesson" to the Arab countries.

In this way the United States is again showing itself before the Arab world as a state unconditionally teaming up with the enemy of the [word indistinct] people, the Israeli aggressors, and their policy of annexation and international banditry. The Washington leaders are thus thwarting the comprehensive political settlement of the Middle East problem.

U.S. Support

LD241802 Moscow TASS in English 1335 GMT 24 Apr 82

["Israel Building Up Tension" -- TASS headline; by TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev]

[Text] Moscow, 24 Apr, TASS -- The danger of a large-scale Israeli aggression is hanging over Lebanon. Tel Aviv has stepped up lately its provocations against that Arab country. Following a barbarous bombing of Beirut and a number of other Lebanese cities this week, Israeli aircraft initiated last Friday air raids on Beirut and other Lebanese cities. They continue reconnaisance flights and increase psychological pressure on the people of Lebanon. The danger of the present situation also lies in the fact that it extends not only to Lebanon but also to the entire region of the Middle East since the leaders of Tel Aviv in their policy of aggression increasingly cooperate with Washington which is intensifying its military preparations in the Middle East. At the same time the notorious Rapid Deployment Force is hurriedly preparing for combat operations. It is planned to station this force primarily in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf area.

Taking advantage of Washington's undisguised protection and extensive support the Tel Aviv rulers have actually started openly preparing for a new aggression in the Middle East. It is absolutely clear that without Washington's consent the Israeli leaders would never have dared to undertake such a venture. They received such consent when the American representative in the UN Security Council, flouting again all principles of this international organization, took the aggressor under U.S. protection and vetoed the resolution submitted by a number of Arab and Moslem countries and urging UN member nations to condemn Israel for profaning the Al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem, a Moslem holy place, and shooting at praying Moslems in it.

It is indicative that this time, too, Washington did not denounce the Israeli aggressors for their crime when Israeli planes bombed civilians in Lebanon this week.

As we see, Washington never fails to live up to its commitment to protect the Israeli aggressors and not to permit under any circumstances any condemnation of Tel Aviv and not to stop for a single day increasing Israel's military might. Such a position of the United States is recorded in the notorious Camp David agreements which are used by the leaders of the USA and Tel Aviv for a practical implementation of American-Israeli plans of aggression in the Middle East.

By giving all-round military and political support to Israel in its aggression against Arab peoples, the Reagan administration makes is easier for Tel Aviv to carry out its sinister plans. It is obvious now that Washington is not against allowing Israel to begin large-scale actions against Lebanon, actions which are considered inevitable by many Arab leaders as well as people in the United States. The American leaders hear these warnings and read in the newspapers about them. Nevertheless they continue to keep silent as if the matter concerns some ordinary things and not a threat hanging over all Arab countries. This is fresh proof of direct U.S. involvement in the aggression Tel Aviv is preparing in the Middle East.

PETROLEUM COOPERATION MAJOR TOPIC IN IRAQI TALKS

LD251902 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Economic talks between the Soviet Union and Iraq are being held in Moscow. Great attention is given in the talks to the extent of cooperation in the petroleum industry. Iraqi representatives expressed their interest in expanding Soviet assistance in prospecting for oil and extracting it.

The Soviet Union has offered assistance in resolving this problem for a number of developing countries, including Algeria, Syria and Libya.

TABAS RAID RECALLED; PLOTS AGAINST IRAN CONTINUE

Freedom Struggle

GF271030 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Igor Sheftunov commentary]

[Excerpts] Last Thursday, the people of the Soviet Union and toilers of other countries of the world celebrated the 112th birth anniversary of V. I. Lenin.

Sixty years ago Lenin predicted that friendly relations between the nations of the Soviet Union and Iran would be beneficial for all those nations which are against imperialism. Peace has its place above mutual interests and benefits. Imperialists and their aggressive collaborators, ignoring these interests and positioning themselves against the nations, are bound to lose.

When the world's imperialist aggressive forces and German fascism wanted to expand their rule in the world and ignited the fire of the world war, all the peace-loving nations struggled against it. And Hitler and his allies were defeated. Reza Shah, who supported fascism, lost his throne and was expelled from his country. The nations of the Soviet Union and Iran jointly celebrated the victory. Mr Sa'aidi, a Radio Moscow listener greeting the victory, wrote from Tehran that we always remember the years of struggle against fascism during which the pillars of friendship of Iran and the Soviet Union nations were strengthened. The efforts of Mohammad Reza, who was the king in Iran at that time, to make the Iranian people bow before the militaristic policies of the new would-be rulers of the world and the new aggressors -- the U.S. imperialists -- failed. During the inauspicious days of the shah's rule, the Iranian people along with those of other nations, while struggling against the dangers of a war gave examples of sacrifice for the cause of peace.

More than 1/2 million Iranians signed the Stockholm peace message which was issued in 1950 and addressed to the nations of the world asking that the U.S. atomic games be controlled.

Two million of your people signed the message asking the five major forces to sign the peace treaty. The shah did not listen to the Iranian people, who wanted to pursue peaceful policies and, to please the U.S. imperialists, he drove the country toward the bloc of aggressors and opened the doors of the country to tens of thousands of U.S. military advisers and gave up Iranian territory for the establishment of foreign military bases.

Eventually, the monarchic regime was destroyed by the weight of its own criminal actions. The 22 Rahman [11 February] revolution of the Iranian people put an end to the country's membership in CENTO and to its shameful role as U.S. gendarme in western Asia. Iran became one of active members of the Nonaligned Movement, which is expanding with the slogans of peace and struggle against imperialism. Moreover, even with the establishment of a strong socialist society and the freedom of tens of nations from the yoke of imperialism and the changing of the world's situation from its roots, the aggressive nature of imperialism has not changed but stays the way it was. Imperiallism is still using the [word indistinct] to ignite the flame of wars and to rule nations.

The description in Brzezinski, the closest adviser to former U.S. President Carter, in the U.S. weekly New York TIMES Magazine of the Pentagon's militarty attack in Tabas which took place exactly 2 years ago, shows the long-lasting adventurism of the imperialists against Iran.

This adventurism has been unproductive. Brzezinski regrets that a strong blow did not take place against Iran. What Carter could not achieve, Reagan's government is willing to do.

The recent CIA plot headed by Qotbzadeh which was discovered is further confirmation. The peace supporters are able to achieve victory over the organizers of military and imperialist adventurism against Iran and other countries and over the forerunners of nuclear and neutron war.

Past, Present U.S. Schemes

GF250752 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, 2 years ago on the night of 25 April, on orders from former U.S. President Carter, U.S. military forces landed a number of paratroopers in Tabas. This provocative military operation had far-reaching aims which could have led not only to a military conflict between the two countries but could have engaged other countries in a very dangerous dispute and led to a world conflict. The Pentagon's adventurism ended in failure and scandal. The aggressors hastily took the corpses of those soldiers who had died during the landing of the paratroopers and departed for home.

Dear listeners, today we are not remembering the events of those days just to review past history; the main reason we recall them is that the present U.S. administration headed by Reagan continues to plot against Iran and is preparing for a counterrevolutionary coup d'etat to establish a pro-Washington regime. Haig, the present U.S. secretary of state, in one of his press conferences explicitly said that he does not like the present Iranian regime and that a regime should be established in Iran that is in the interest of the United States.

The Tabas adventure was carefully prepared by the U.S. CIA that once toppled Dr Mosaddeq's government and is experienced in this activity. The U.S. fifth column in Iran, Savak members hiding inside Iran, participated in this abortive operation. They were ordered to stage a coup d'etat using the opportunity of the paratroopers' landing. The Washington POST wrote that officials in the Pentagon and White House made it clear that the United States had collaborators in Tehran and that the date of the attack had been arranged with their approval.

Washington also had its dependent countries -- Israel, Oman, Pakistan and As-Sadat's regime in Egypt -- to use in preparation for the Tabas operation. It was the territories of these countries that were used for the transporation of the helicopter personnel and the launching of military transport planes. Israeli Prime Minister Begin and former Egyptian President as-Sadat talked openly about this issue. As-Sadat rudely said that the U.S. saboteurs' abortive attack should not stop new efforts in the future.

A few days ago Brzezinski, one of the direct planners of the aggressive operation against Iran and Carter's closest adviser, in an article published in the New York TIMES weekly magazine praised the White House's adventure and its vast dimensions. Brzezinski openly expressed regret that the plan to strike Iran did not take place 2 years earlier. Now the Reagan administration wants to implement the plan that Carter could not.

The United States had increased its military presence in the Persian Gulf and deployed its Rapid Deployment Force in this region. It is building new military bases in Oman and other countries. According to the New York TIMES, alongside all these moves the CIA is establishing a coalition among various refugee groups who could be an important factor in deciding Iran's future. In other words, the United States is trying to create a government in Iran similar to that of the shah's time with [words indistinct] would render services for Washington and guarantee U.S. interests.

Millions of dollars have been allocated for the implementation of this plan. This money is spent in support of two quasimilitary and anti-Iranian groups in Turkey. One of these groups consists of 8,000 persons and is headed by Admiral Madani, former Iranian navy commander. General Aryana, former chief of staff of the shah's army, heads the second group, which consists of 2,000 persons and is closely affliated with Bakhtiar, the last prime minister of the shah's regime.

The CIA is supporting these groups with money and weapons. The intelligence services of other countries, including Israel, are cooperating in delivering weapons. The CIA is providing funds for refugee plotters in France and Egypt. With the CIA money, a clandestine radio is operating which is busy with propaganda against the Iranian regime.

The recent plot discovered in Iran and headed by Qotbzadeh, the former foreign minister, is closely related to these aggressive preparations. The plotters intended to topple the Islamic Republic of Iran and kill Ayatollah Khomeyni. Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri, head of the Military Tribunal of the Islamic Revolution, said at a press conference that the plotters had direct contacts with the CIA and the Israeli intelligence service, which was providing them with weapons and other special equipment for sabotage. Representatives of feudalist, religious, bourgeois circles and military officers also participated in this plot.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri stressed that the responsibility for the preparation of the plot rests with the CIA, Israel and members of the annihilated shah's family. The above-mentioned topics show that Washington wants an adventure like the one at Tabas of 2 years ago that failed miserably, but this time it will be with far larger dimensions.

OVERFLYING MAURITANIAN LEADER CABLES BREZHNEV

PM231335 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 82 p 2

[Text] TASS -- Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has received a telegram from on board an aircraft from Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee of National Salvation and head of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. In it, while overflying USSR territory, he conveyed warm greetings and best wishes to L.Il Brezhnev and the Soviet Union's people.

ALIYEV-LED DELEGATION'S ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO

23 April Report

LD231334 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] A report from Mexico: The delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Comrade Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and USSR Supreme Soviet deputy, has laid a wreath at the monument to the heroic defenders of Mexico. It was erected in honor of the Mexican patriots who fell in the battles against the American interventionists and for the freedom and independence of the homeland in the middle of the last century. The Soviet guests left a note in the book of honorary visitors.

A working meeting was held between Soviet and Mexican parliamentarians which passed in a warm and frank atmosphere and in a spirit of mutual understanding. The conversation demonstrated a coincidence in the positions of the sides in questions of respect for the sovereignty and independence of peoples and noninterference in their internal affairs, and revealed a profound interest in reducing the threat of nuclear war. Deputies Manuel Stephens from the Popular Socialist Party and Escuella Rodriguez from the Popular Socialist Party expressed support for the foreign policy of the Soviet Union.

Brezhnev Message To President

LD241430 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] The official friendly visit to Mexico by a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet is continuing. The delegation was received by Mexican President Lopez Portillo. A conversation was held in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. The head of the Soviet delegation, Comrade Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Azerbaijan Communist Party, handed to the Mexican president a message from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. In accepting the message, President Lopez Portillo expressed gratitude that the Soviet leader had sent him this important document, containing, as he said, very reassuring propositions concerning the position of the Soviet state in the present situation.

Tour of Country

LD260858 Moscow TASS in English 0828 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Cancun, 26 Apr, TASS -- A delegation from the USSR Supreme Soviet, led by the alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, Deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet Geydar Aliyev, in Mexico on an official friendly visit, has begun a tour of the country.

The Soviet parliamentarians yesterday visited an important offshore oil production area in the Gulf of Campeche. Intensive development of the region was started only two years ago, but already at present, it gives the country three-fifths of the entire amount of oil. The oil industry in Mexico belongs to the state.

The Soviet guests were given an opportunity to see the offshore-oil-producing area from the air, and then familiarise themselves with the living and working conditions of the oilmen. Mexican specialists described to the delegation at the offshore platform Acaluota the history of the discovery of the deposit and its operation, prospects of the growth of oil production and more effective use of associate gas.

On the same day the delegation arrived in the resort and tourist centre of Cancun in the Yucatan Peninsula. A dinner was given in honour of the delegation on behalf of the governor of Quintana Roo State and the mayor of Cancun. The Soviet guests were warmly welcomed on the governor's instructions by the state's General Secretary Mario Villanuevo.

U.S. TO SEND MILITARY AID TO GUATEMALAN REGIME

LD251556 Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 25 Apr 82

[By TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov]

[Text] Moscow, 25 Apr, TASS -- The New York TIMES reports today that the United States plans new military deliveries to the present Guatemalan regime. The move is explained by the fact that Washington "gave up" its earlier ban on weapons sales to Guatemala, since the position with human rights has allegedly improved there. According to the New York TIMES, administration officials said that the United States would supply four million dollars' worth of helicopter spares to Guatemala, renew a programme for training Guatemalan servicemen, and will use its influence at the Inter-American Development Bank and other international financial organizations to secure credits and loans to Guatemala.

This means that the matter at hand is a large-scale programme of military aid to one of the most blood-thirsty regimes in Central America, a regime which pursues an undisguised policy of genocide. By the way, already last year the present Washington administration gave the green light to arms supplies to Guatemala through third countries. From now on they will be made without any camouflage.

Think of the amount of hypocrisy needed to maintain that the human rights situation in Guatemala has "improved"! Only recently a report published by the U.S. Department of State in Washington said that Guatemalan authorities systematically murdered 250-300 "political opponents" a month. Whom do the Guatemalan rulers and their U.S. benefactors consider to be political opponents? Here are hard facts: On the eve of the so-called "election" held in Guatemala on March 7, punitive troops killed over 200 people in Quichi Department in the north-west of the country. Most of the victims of this cold-blooded murder were old people, women and children. At the end of March soldiers arriving in U.S.-supplied helicopters burnt 2,000 peasant houses and murdered scores of civilians in the Chimaltenango Department. Many villages were literally razed.

The so-called death squadrons headed by members of the ruling Guatemalan camarilla and trained by U.S. advisers murder innocent civilians, and then dump their corpses into volcanoes or into the sea. The corpses that are found bear the trace of atrocious torture.

A statement published by the National Council of Guatemalan Women at the end of last year in Mexico City cites a hair-raising figure -- 100,000 people were killed and tortured to death in the country in the years of the sway of consecutive U.S.-supported dictatorships -- 100,000 out of a total of seven million people living in the country. With the help of mass murders Guatemalan rulers want to intimidate their people, to make them get accustomed to the reign of terror.

As to Washington, it regards and uses Guatemala as a place d'armes for suppressing the national liberation movement in Central America. Its territory is widely used for armed provocations against Nicaragua and for U.S. interference in El Salvador. Guatemala is at the same time a lucrative place for U.S. monopolies. It is not accidental that U.S. capital investments there are highter than in any other Central American nation.

It is obvious that Guatemalan rulers will use new military supplies from Washington mentioned by the New York TIMES for fresh punitive operations against the population of the country. And this only aggravates the blame and the responsibility of the United States for the suffering and troubles of the people of Guatemala.

U.S. SEEKS TO 'CAJOLE' EL SALVADOR'S D'AUBUISSON

PM230951 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Apr 82 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed "rejoinder" from R. Tuchnin "World Today" feature: "Washington's Puppets"]

[Text] How long has the retired Major D'Aubuisson, extreme reactionary and organizer of the sinister "death squads" rampaging in Salvadoran soil, been on Washington's blacklist? Wasn't he even refused an entry visa for the United States? Now, however, he is a welcome guest at the table of the American ambassador in El Salvador, Hinton, at a dinner in honor of a visiting congressional delegation. D'Aubuisson and his associates from other extreme rightwing parties are being cajoled on all sides. One U.S. congressman mysteriously said: "We came here to impress something upon him."

The point is that the power-hungry Salvadorn major has spoiled the Washington men's game. The election farce in El Salvador went so far to the right that the Christian Democrats were pushed into the background. It was on their spurious "reformism" that the White House was gambling in order to conceal the junta's crimes. However, D'Aubuisson is so politically odious that even "moderate" circles in the U.S. Congress do not want anything to do with him, for fear of incurring public displeasure.

So the retired officer and his highly reactionary allies are being prevailed on to be more gracious toward the Christian Democrats, to include them in the government and, if only for appearance's sake, to promise some "reforms." There has been no movement so far. D'Aubuisson and Co. are acting cockily, driving a hard bargain and, judging by recent reports, have refused to include representatives of the Christian Democrats in the government. But aside from all that, the continuing intrigues concerning the kingpins of the Salvadoran oligarchy are further evidence of the hypocrisy and falseness of the Washington administration's statement about the "free elections" in that country.

REAGAN CARIBBEAN TOUR PURSUES STRATEGIC AIMS

PM221141 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Apr 82 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by A. Ruslanov under the rubric "Pertinent Comment": "Trip With a Purpose"]

[Text] U.S. President R. Reagan recently visited the Caribbean. The U.S. press described his 5-day trip to Jamaica and Barbados as a "working vacation." But Washington attached special significance to the President's tour. Although the program for Reagan's "vacation" was not announced officially, it was no secret that during his trip there would be discussion of the "Caribbean initiative" which the U.S. President launched no so long ago from the OAS rostrum. The "initiative" was proclaimed with great pomp. But when the smoke cleared, as they say, it turned out that the countenance of the loudly billed act of "philanthropy" was utterly unattractice and painted in obviously sinister colors.

In particular, it has become known that the $350 million which the President intends to request from the U.S. Congress to finance the "initiative" will bring no benefits to the majority of Caribbean countries. The lion's share is destined for consolidating the brutal Salvadoran regime, while the remaining millions will be distributed among several reactionary rulers -- depending on the degree of their devotion to Washington. In any event, certainly neither Nicaragua nor Grenada, which refuse to submit to U.S. diktat, will be among the "favored."

The concealed political meaning to the "Caribbean initiative" is so obvious that some states which had been on the point of expressing the desire to associate themselves with it (Canada, Mexico, Venezuela) rapidly turned away, and the White House essentially found itself isolated. It remained face to face with its "mini-Marshall Plan" which in the eyes of the Latin American public is being increasingly identified as an instrument of diktat designed to serve U.S. imperialist goals -- to consolidate antipopular dictatorships in the region and at the same time to set some countries against others on the "divide and rule" principle.

For this reason, in Washington's view the "Caribbean initiative" is in acute need of life-giving infusions and requires international billing to improve its ailing staminia. That is the mission the U.S. President undertook when he set off on his diplomatic "vacation" touring the Caribbean.

Reagan's choice of itinerary was no accident. He made his first stop in Jamaica, where the Seaga government has been loyally serving its Washington patrons from the first days of its existence. It has opened its doors wide to large-scale U.S. capital and is selling national resources wholesale and retail, and on the international plane it is obediently following its powerful northern neighbors, not stopping at slandering Cuba and other countries reluctant to submit to Washington. The Jamaican rulers were also to receive a sizeable sum for the "Caribbean initiative," and the compliant Seaga naturally called Reagan's "aid plan" a "historic step."

In Bridgetown, capital of Barbados, the White House incumbent had a meeting with the leaders of some small states -- Antigua, Dominica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. Under cover of talks of "aid" he sought to make it clear to his interlocutors that they would have to pay for each dollar he supplied with political obedience to the United States. Here is what a Washington POST correspondent writes on this score: "President Reagan tried to combine carrot and stick in his policy toward the five small countries in the eastern Caribbean, supplementing the promise of U.S. economic aid with a warning of the dangers of imitating the economic and political system existing in Cuba and the USSR.

It must be said that throughout the tour the distinguished guest from Washington was unstinting in sharp, slanderous attacks against Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada, seemingly thus stressing the watershed line for the notorious "mini-Marshall Plan" and exposing yet again the political point of this Washington undertaking.

The start of Reagan's "Caribbean vacation" coincided with the announcement that the large-scale "Ocean Venture-82" military maneuvers are to be held in the Caribbean with the participation of dozens of warships and hundreds of aircraft. For this reason alone many Western observers are naturally concluding that the U.S. "Caribbean initiative" conceals dangerous Washington military-strategic plans.

They also quote in this connection M. Evens, U.S. Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago, who on the eve of Reagan's departure from Washington stated with striking frankness that the United States had never even tried "to fool anybody into thinking that the Caribbean initiative was the fruit of the pure magnanimity." "One of the main reasons for the initiative," the diplomat admitted, "is U.S. security," that is, safeguarding U.S. military strategic interests in the region by cobbling together a grouping of states which could be used in the U.S. orbit and primarily against those countries where the national liberation movement is gathering strength.

Many aspects of Washington's Caribbean policy were half-revealed by Reagan's "vacation" trip. If we were to draw a main conclusion from it, it would be that the United States has reaffirmed yet again that it rejects any actions aimed at settling the tense situation in the region through negotiations and agreements and is seeking to resolve all problems there from a position of strength and with the aid of the same old "big stick," which it is trying to conceal this time behind the pseudophilanthropic screen of the so-called "Caribbean initiative."

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA RECALLS BAY OF PIGS EVENTS

PM231413 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Apr 82 p 3

[Capt W. Nikanorov "Commentator's Diary": "Warning to Aggressors"]

[Text] In fierce fighting at Playa Giron 21 years ago the fearless patriots of the young Republic of Cuba completely routed American mercenaries and defended their motherland's freedom and independence.

American imperialism had appropriated millions of dollars to form an army of mercenaries and to equip them with modern hardware and weapons. In spring 1961 a U.S. National Security Council session decided to bring into operation the "Cuban Brigade," which had been knocked together from counterrevolutionary rabble.

On 15 April 1961 B-26 bombers that had taken off from airfields in the United States and certain Central American states appeared in Cuban skies. The bombs dropped from these aircraft exploded in residential quarters of Havana, San Antonio de Los Banos and Santiago de Cuba. And during the night of 17 April the fighters of a People's Militia battalion who were guarding the shore of Cochinos Bay were fired on from the sea. The patrol, which joined the unequal battle against the enemy, managed to send off a radio message: "There are a lot of them. We're fighting, but we won't be able to hold out for long. Send help as fast as possible. The motherland or death!"

The interventionists, who had the most modern weapons and enjoyed air and sea cover, were crushingly defeated. By the morning of 17 April forward detachments of Cuban troops and the People's Militia had stopped the aggressors' advance. It took just 72 hours to completely rout the people who had landed in Cochinos Bay. More than 200 mercenaries were killed and 1,197 were taken prisoner.

Cuba was not alone in the fight against the enemy. At their time of grim ordeal the Cuban people received powerful support from the USSR. "Without the Soviet people's constant, resolute and generous assistance, our motherland would have been unable to hold out in the fight against imperialism," Fidel Castro has said. "...The Soviet people gave us gratis the weapons with which we fought against the mercenaries at Playa Giron and equipped our revolutionary armed forces."

The fraternal inviolable friendship that unites our peoples is of special significance now that the American administration is again hatching plans to destroy the Cuban revolution and is fueling a malicious anti-Cuban campaign. But all these endeavors are doomed to fail.

TASS REPORTS FIRST QUARTER ECONOMIC RESULTS

LD231632 Moscow TASS in English 1559 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 23 Apr, TASS -- The Council of Ministers of the USSR today examined the results of the implementation of the state plan of the USSR's economic and social development and the state budget of the USSR in the first quarter of 1982.

The growth of the country's economy and the rise of the people's well-being were ensured in the first quarter of this year.

Industrial output grew by 2.1 percent against the corresponding period of 1981, and by 2.9 percent according to daily production. The plan of marketing industrial produce was fulfilled by 101 percent. Re-tooling and reconstruction of the operationg factories and workshops continued.

Preparations for spring sowing have been mainly completed in agriculture. Field-work is under way in some regions of the country.

Implementation of the programme of social development and raising of the people's well-being was continued. The average monthly wages and salaries grew by 2.4 percent compared with the first quarter of last year. Construction of houses and cultural and utility facilities were carried out on a large scale.

The session noted serious shortcomings in the implementation of plan assignments. A number of ministries failed to fulfill the assignment of the growth of labour productivity and introduction of new machinery.

Industrial Output

LD232142 Moscow TASS in English 2112 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 23 Apr, TASS -- The Soviet industry has fulfilled the plan of the first quarter of the overall output of the production of the majority of the most important types of articles. This has been stated in a report of the USSR Central Statistical Board published today on the results of the fulfillment of the state plan by the country's industry in the first quarter of 1982.

The increment of industrial output amounted to 2.1 per cent as against the corresponding period of the last year, and the March figure was 3.7 per cent.

Labour productivity went up by 1.5 per cent in the first quarter, including by 3.1 per cent in March. Labour productivity growth accounts for 70 per cent of the increment of industrial output in the first quarter.

The output of the major products has been as follows: 369 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity, 150 million tons of oil (including gas condensate), 125 billion cubic metres of gas, 186 million tons of coal, 36.8 million tons of steel, 25.8 million tons of ready rolled stock.

The report points out that the industry was functioning in difficult conditions in the first quarter. Hydro-power stations did not work at full capacity in some regions as a result of little amount of water in rivers. This caused difficulties with electricity supply. Insufficient supply of agricultural raw materials negatively affected the light and food industries. Production amalgamations and enterprises of separate industries have not fulfilled plans on the overall output, labour productivity growth and the reduction of production cost. The report says that the plan of gas extraction, the production of tyres, metal-cutting tools, instruments, automation and computer equipment, electric locomotives, automobiles, separate types of agricultural machines, excavators, garments, china and glassware, clocks and watches, TV-sets, furniture and other consumer goods was overfulfilled in the first quarter. The output of numerically controlled machine-cutting tools, industrial robots, machines and equipment with improved technical and economic characteristics was going up at priority rates.

ECONOMIC WEEKLY REVIEWS 1981 FOREIGN TRADE FACTS

PM210853 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 14 Apr 82 Signed to Press 29 Mar 82 pp 21-22

[Article by V. Klyuchek, member of the Collegium and chief of the Main Planning and Economic Administration of the Ministry of Foreign Trade: "The USSR's Foreign Trade -- Survey for 1981"]

[Text] The volume of Soviet foreign trade in 1981 increased 16.6 percent in actual foreign trade prices by comparison with 1980, totaling R109.7 billion. Today 142 countries are foreign trading partners of the USSR. Of these, trade and economic relations with 116 countries are regulated by intergovernment agreements on trade and on economic and industrial cooperation.

In actual world market prices the USSR's exports last year reached R57.1 billion, while imports totaled R52.6 billion, which represents a 15-percent and an 18-percent increase, respectively, over the corresponding indicators for 1980.

Volume of the USSR's foreign trade broken down into groups of countries (billion rubles)

	1970	1980	1981
In all:			
Turnover	22.1	94.1	109.7
Exports	11.5	49.6	57.1
Imports	10.6	44.5	52.6
Socialist countries:			
Turnover	14.4	50.6	57.9
Exports	7.5	26.9	31.2
Imports	6.9	23.7	26.7
of which, CEMA countries:			
Turnover	12.3	45.8	52.2
Exports	6.3	24.3	28.6
Imports	6.0	21.5	23.6
Industrially developed capitalist countries:			
Turnover	4.7	31.5	35.3
Exports	2.2	15.8	17.2
Imports	2.5	15.7	18.1
Developing countries:			
Turnover	3.0	12.0	16.5
Exports	1.8	6.9	8.7
Imports	1.2	5.1	7.8

Exports

A substantial proportion of Soviet exports consists of machinery, equipment and transport facilities, of which R7.8 billion worth was exported in 1981. The socialist countries' share of exports of Soviet machine-building output is 75.3 percent.

Exports of machinery and equipment are mainly the output of such sectors as power, transport, metallurgical and agricultural machine building and machine tool building. In recent years the formation of the structure of machinery and equipment exports has been increasingly influenced by new forms of cooperation with foreign countries going beyond the framework of conventional trade, in particular production specialization and sharing, which are implemented with the CEMA countries and also, for certain types of equipment, with individual capitalist countries.

Power equipment has the major position in Soviet exports of machine-building output. In 1981 exports of this equipment totaled R829 million. Deliveries of equipment continued to the Salto Grande hydrelectric power station in Argentina, the Sobradinho hydroelectric station in Brazil and the Pournarion hydroelectric station in Greece, and also to the Costanerro and Bahia Blanca thermal power stations in Argentina and the Kardhia in Greece. The export program was swelled last year by a major contract for the delivery of power equipment for the (Amideon) thermal power station in Greece in a consortium with the French firm Alsthom.

Trucks and garage equipment worth R900 million, passenger cars worth R412 million and railroad rolling stock worth R189 million were exported last year.

The export of aviation equipment, at a total sum of R630 million -- 17 percent more than in 1980 -- is developing successfully.

The Soviet Union is a major exporter of equipment for ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy. Metallurgical equipment worth R591 million was exported.

The export of tractors and garage equipment increased 13 percent totaling R540 million, while the export of agricultural machinery increased 14 percent, reaching R230 million. Exports of seeders, grain-harvesting combines and hay and straw balers increased.

The proportion of equipment for underground and opencut mineral mining, of instruments and laboratory equipment and of equipment for metal working industry enterprises increased.

Fuel and energy goods occupy a large place in Soviet exports with their share again showing a certain increase last year. They are mainly supplied to the CEMA countries.

The export of pig iron and rolled ferrous metals increased. Deliveries of pipes to socialist countries, aluminum to socialist and capitalist countries and of lead and nickle to developed capitalist countries all increased.

Exports of chemical and petrochemical industry output are increasing dynamically. Exports of chemical goods rose 21 percent, and their range was expanded. There was an increase in exports of sulfuric acid, plastics and synthetic resins, phosphoric and potassium fertilizers, agricultural pesticides and nitrogenous fertilizers.

Exports of timber and pulp and paper goods decreased 6 percent. At the same time the export of pulpwood, cellulose and paper increased somewhat in this group of commodities.

Deliveries of cultural and consumer goods are expanding. In the past year 498,000 refrigerators, 23 million domestic timepieces, about 1.3 million cameras and 950,000 bicycles were exported.

Imports

Two groups of commodities -- machine-building output and food items and the raw material for their production -- dominate our imports.

In 1981, machinery, equipment and transport facilities worth R15.9 billion were imported. New enterprises have been installed and many existing enterprises retooled and reconstructed using imported equipment. Imported equipment was supplied mainly for the needs of the energy, chemical and petrochemical industries, ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, automobile and tractor building, and the pulp and paper, timber, light and food industires. The replenishment and renewal of railroad rolling stock, the truck pool and the maritime and river fleet continued.

For the metallurgical industry we imported equipment worth R443 million; for the chemical industry -- equipment worth R853 million; for the power engineering and the electrical equipment industry -- R1,388 million; for the textile industry -- R434 million; for the timber, pulp and paper and woodworking industry -- R169 million; for the food and food-preparation industry -- R442 million; for the printing industry -- R97 million. We imported material-handling equipment worth R890 million, road and road-building machinery worth R468 million, metalworking equipment worth R1,208 million and communications equipment worth R780 million.

Ships and ships' equipment worth R1,235 million were imported for water transport and the fishing fleet. Rolling stock and equipment for railroad transport worth R665 million were imported.

Machinery and equipment for agriculture worth R880 million were imported.

The share of individual groups of countries in the USSR's foreign trade turnover in 1981 (percentages):

Socialist countries -- 52.8; of which, CEMA members -- 47.6

Industrially developed capitalist countries -- 32.2

Developing countries -- 15

The CEMA countries are the main suppliers of machinery and equipment goods to the USSR. They accounted for 68 percent of Soviet imports of such items. Imports from this group of countries reached R10.8 billion.

Equipment worth R4.4 billion was imported from the developed capitalist countries; deliveries of raw and semifinished materials for various national economic projects continued. Rolled ferrous metals worth R1,279 million and assorted pipes worth R1,575 million were imported.

Foreign trade is making a substantial contribution to the fuller satisfaction of the working people's consumer requirements. Cultural and consumer goods and food and food-preparation products were imported in 1981 to replenish retail trade stocks, and essential types of raw material were imported to supply enterprises of the food and light industries.

Thus 4.2 million tons of raw sugar, 980,000 tons of meat and meat products, 215,000 tons of butter, 556 million eggs, 41,000 tons of coffee, 121,000 tons of cocoa beans, 84,000 tons of tea, 1,021,000 tons of fresh fruit and berries and 213,000 tons of fresh vegetables were imported. In addition a certain quantity of grain crops was imported. Some 105,000 tons of tobacco, 476 million meters of textiles, sewn goods worth R1,051 million, knitwear worth R618 million, assorted footwear worth R1,099 million and furniture worth R517 million were imported.

The Geography of the Deliveries

The overwhelming proportion of foreign trade commodity turnover with the socialist countries -- about 90 percent -- is accounted for by the CEMA countries. With all these countries there was a further substantial increase in commodity turnover, which rose almost 15 percent in comparison with 1980.

For well-known reasons the rate of increase in commodity turnover with Poland slowed last year and comprised just 1.9 percent. Our exports to Poland increased 11.9 percent, while imports from this country fell by 10.5 percent. Loyal to the principles of socialist internationalism, the USSR is assisting Poland to overcome its economic difficulties.

In relations with the CEMA countries attention was focused on coordinating for the current 5-year period and for the eighties an extensive package of new integration measures coordinated with the 5-year national economic plans of all CEMA countries. Its components included targeted programs for cooperation in the main spheres of the economy and long-term production specialization and coproduction programs geared to the period through 1990, and also a coordinated plan of integration measures for 1981-1985.

In the 1981 the USSR delivered fuel, raw material, machinery and equipment to the socialist countries and rendered these countries extensive technical assistance in the erection of industrial installations. In turn the socialist countries delivered to the USSR many types of machinery and equipment, transport facilities, consumer goods and individual type of raw material.

One of the most important avenues of cooperation with the fraternal countries -- production specialization and coproduction -- was further developed. Impetus was provided by long-term bilateral programs for production specialization and coproduction signed in 1979-1980 between the Soviet Union and Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania and Czechoslovakia and which are closely linked with the long-term targeted cooperation programs.

Many ministries of the USSR and other CEMA countries have already signed sectorial programs for the development of production of new types of articles and measures to improve the technical standard and quality of reciprocally supplied output in tractor and agricultural machine building, heavy, transport and power machine building, and the pulp and paper, medical, machine tool and tool building, petroleum refining and petrochemical, chemical, automotive and other industries.

Production specialization and coproduction must become the main channel of the CEMA countries' reciprocal provision with the necessary types of machinery and equipment.

Increasing significance in trade with the CEMA countries is attached to agreements on multilateral production specialization and coproduction, of which the production of metal-cutting machine tools with numerical program control and shuttleless looms, in which six socialist countries are taking part, and the production of construction machinery and equipment with the participation of organizations from seven CEMA countries can serve as an example.

USSR's Commodity Turnover with the CEMA Countries (million rubles)

	1970	1980	1981
Bulgaria	1,816	7,099	8,071
Hungary	1,480	5,738	6,007
Vietnam	183	612	892
GDR	3,295	9,200	10,681
Cuba	1,045	4,266	4,807
Mongolia	231	884	1,036
Poland	2,350	8,002	8,152
Romania	919	2,791	3,452
Czechoslovakia	2,193	7,184	8,487

Of the countries which do not belong to CEMA, trade with Yugoslavia developed actively. Commodity turnover with that country increased 30 percent in comparison with 1980, totaling R5 billion. The volume of trade with China was almost halved, totaling R176.8 million.

Over 80 multilateral and about 100 bilateral agreements have already been concluded with the CEMA countries and Yugoslavia on production specialization and coproduction in various spheres of machine building, including the production of equipment for nuclear power stations, heavy and special-purpose machine tools, computer hardware, tractors, agricultural machinery and mining and other equipment.

In 1981 foreign trade with the industrially developed capitalist countries proceeded under complex trading and political conditions artificially created by the opponents of the relaxation of international tension. Fueling political and military tension in the world, the United States has not only itself imposed restrictions on trade with the socialist countries but is seeking by every means to hinder the development of normal economic relations between West Europe and the socialist community countries. The U.S. administration is doing everything to replace international economic cooperation with "sanctions" and a trade and credit blockade and to force the Soviet Union to embark on political concessions.

In his speech at the 17th Congress of USSR Trade Unions on 16 March 1982, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted in this connection that the Soviet Union has a powerful economy and rich resources. "But the countries Washington calls its allies," L.I. Brezhnev said, "include many which are far more dependent on foreign trade in their entire development. So we do not know whose interests are harmed more by the policy of cowboy attacks on international trade and normal economic ties."

Those of the USSR's business partners who, succumbing to pressure from across the ocean, might embark on trade restrictions may pay for this by losing their positions in our foreign trade -- and, as experience shows, it is far easier to overturn trade and economic relations than to restore them.

Proceeding from the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems, the Soviet Union adheres in relations with the Western countries to the line of preserving stable trade and economic ties with those countries which for their part display an interest in developing economic cooperation.

The industrially developed West European countries occupy a large place in the Soviet Union's trade. In 1981 they accounted for 80 percent of the USSR's entire commodity turnover with the industrially developed capitalist countries, or one-fourth of the total volume of the Soviet Union's foreign trade. Commodity turnover with the West European countries in 1981 totaled R28.3 billion.

Our biggest trade partners among these countries are the states with whom relations have a stable and long-term treaty-law foundation covering completely the period of the 11th 5-Year Plan. These are the FRG, Finland, France and Italy.

The USSR's commodity turnover with the industrially developed capitalist countries (million rubles)

	1970	1980	1981
FRG	544	5,780	6,009
Finland	531	3,889	5,013
France	413	3,753	4,189
Italy	472	3,034	3,486
Japan	652	2,723	3,029
United States	161	1,502	1,845
Britain	641	1,812	1,504
Netherlands	223	1,388	1,477
Canada	125	1,002	1,426
Australia	62	781	549

The FRG ranks first in this group in terms of commodity turnover. Trade and economic ties between the two countries are developing on the basis of the agreement on the development and intensification of long-term cooperation in the sphere of the economy and industry concluded in 1980 for a 25-year period.

In 1981 the portfolios of FRG firms were supplemented by major new orders from Soviet organizations. Among them mention should be made primarily of the contracts with the Mannesmann-Thyssen consortium for the supply of 555,000 tons of large-diameter pipes to the USSR in 1981-1982, with the (Lurgi) a firm for the supply of a complete set of equipment for a potassium chloride production plant with a capacity of 2 million tons a year and with the Mannsemann-Creusot-Loire consortium on participation in the construction of compressor stations for the export gas pipeline. In turn Soviet organizations have sold Ruhrgaz Ag natural gas which will be supplied to the FRG for 25 years starting in 1984 at a rate of 10.5 billion cubic meters a year.

Finland ranks second in terms of volume of trade and first in terms of the diversity of forms of trade and economic cooperation. The USSR's business ties with Finland serve as a good basis for equal, mutually advantageous cooperation between countries with different social systems. The program for the development and intensification of trade, economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries through 1995 and the agreement on commodity turnover and payments for the period 1981-1985 define specific avenues for the development of trade ties in the current 5-year plan.

In 1981 cooperation was successfully effected between the two countries in constructing industrial and other national economic installations. The Lovisa-2 nuclear power station constructed with the Soviet Union's technical and economic assistance was commissioned.

Major new contracts and agreements were signed in particular for the constuction of the second and third stages of the Kostomukshskiy mining and enrichment combine with a production rate of 24 million tons of ore and 9 million tons of pellets a year in the Karelskaya ASSR, and on the sale of 13 ships of various types to the USSR. Soviet organizations and enterprises have concluded the 11th contract of cooperation with Finnish firms in the joint production and sale -- on the markets of third countries also -- pulse-coded modulation channel-forming apparatus [kanaloobrazuyushchaya apparatura impulsno-kodovoy modulyatsii]; and the wide range of the spheres of Soviet-Finnish cooperation has been swelled by electronic communications apparatus.

The USSR's trade with France developed steadily in 1981. During the implementation of the Soviet-French agreement on economic cooperation in 1980-1985 and the long-term program for the intensification of economic, industrial and technical cooperation in 1980-1990, the USSR received over the year equipment for plants for the production of steam and orthoxylols [ortoksiloly] in Ufa, benzene in Omsk and Alumina in Nikolayev, and plants for the production of styrene and polystyrene.

In early 1982 an agreement was signed with the French state company Gaz de France on deliveries of 8 billion cubic meters of gas a year for 25 years. In turn French firms have expanded their export portfolios with large-scale contracts for the delivery to the USSR of automated control and communication systems, a gas-cooling station for the Orenburg-Uzhgorod gas pipeline, equipment for the reconstruction of the Volga truck plant and other equipment.

The agreement on economic cooperation in 1980-1985 and the long-term program for the intensification of economic and industrial cooperation between the USSR and Italy have been successfully implemented. In 1981 Italian firms supplied the USSR with equipment for enterprises of the chemical, petrochemical, gas, automotive, tractor, light, food and other industries. In particular, equipment for three chemical plants was supplied to the USSR by Italy on a compensation basis. The long-term program being drafted for intensifying economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries for the period through 1990 should provide further impetus to the development of Soviet-Italian trade and economic relations.

Apart from the United States, the Soviet Union had the greatest difficulty in the development of its trade and economic relations in 1981 with Britian and Japan, whose governments were in solidarity with Washington in the policy of erecting artificial barriers to trade with the Soviet Union. Commodity turnover with Britian fell 17 percent compared with 1980.

In 1981 commodity turnover increased considerably with Spain by 61.2 percent, with Portugal (42.9 percent), Canada (42.4 percent), Austria (39.4 percent), Denmark (34.8 percent), Greece (27.2 percent) and Iceland (25.3 percent).

There was a further quantitative increase and qualitative improvement in the Soviet Union's trade and economic relations with the developing countries. Commodity turnover with this group of countries increased 37.5 percent compared with 1980, and their share in the USSR's total foreign trade turnover increased from 12.7 percent in 1980 to 15 percent in 1981.

Foreign trade with Afghanistan continued to develop successfully, reaching R656 million as against R505 million in 1980 and R67 million in 1970. Commodity turnover with Angola was R115 million, with Kampuchea -- R61 million, with Mozambique R37 million, with the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen -- R99 million and with Ethiopia -- R156 million.

Deliveries of goods within the framework of interstate long-term agreements on economic and technical cooperation comprise a considerable proportion of the USSR's commodity turnover with the developing countries.

Machinery and equipment traditionally comprise the most important item of Soviet exports to the developing countries. Half of the deliveries were effected for complete enterprises within the framework of the economic and technical assistance being rendered to the countries. Alongside machinery and equipment, the Soviet Union also supplied the developing countries in 1981 with such commodities as petroleum and petroleum products, timber, rolled ferrous metals, chemical products and other goods.

Purchases of cotton textiles, knitted and sewn goods, untreated leather, vegetable oils, jute sacks, tea, spices, tropical fruit, grain and other foodstuffs, mineral raw materials and fuel have become important to our national economy. Purchases of commodities from these countries' national industries, including the machine-building output of liberated countries like India, for instance, have expanded.

The USSR's trade turnover with individual developing countries (million rubles)

	1970	1980	1981
India	365	1,740	2,398
Argentina	30	1,192	2,403
Iraq	63	732	909
Iran	231	335	878
Libya	13	451	551
Brazil	23	275	550
Syria	59	321	530
Egypt	606	384	511
Turkey	83	443	448

In relations with the developing countries great attention is constantly paid to the improvement of trade treaty practices, of the forms of trade and economic relations of the system of accounting and of the planning of trade and economic cooperation.

In recent years the long-term basis of trade and economic relations has taken shape as the most promising form for the development of stable trade making it possible to link the development of trade more closely with national economic plans and to coordinate individual aspects of the national economic plans with the liberated states' own economic development plans. This is helped by the expanding practice of concluding with the developing countries both long-term trade agreements and agreements and programs on economic, scientific and technical cooperation for 10-15 years covering a broad sphere of business relations. To coordinate trade, economic, scientific and technical ties between the USSR and the developing countries increasingly wide use is made of intergovernmental commissions for trade, economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

The principles of improving the national economy and accelerating the intensification of social production which have been placed at the basis of economic policy for the current 5-year plan give rise to the need to further increase the efficiency of foreign economic relations. This should be assisted by the emergence of additional reserves for expanding the production of goods for export and by improving the structure of exports, rationalizing imports and replacing imported items by domestically produced goods for whose manufacture favorable opportunities exist in the country.

Work on improving the methodology and methods of determining the national economic efficiency of export and import operations and the more complex forms of foreign trade activity -- compensation agreements and international coproduction and production specialization -- is becoming extremely topical.

PRAVDA URGES BETTER USE OF DIRECTORS' COUNCILS

PM231419 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 82 p 1

[Editorial: "The Directors' Council"]

[Excerpts] In common with numerous other public bodies, directors' councils -- a comparatively recent innovation -- are now playing a prominent role in production management and the drive to increase efficiency and improve work quality.

In some cases they bring together the managers of enterprises belonging to an all-union industrial association, in others the directors of plants which, although belonging to different sectors, are located in the same city or industrial region. These bodies also function successfully when established on a regional or sector basis.

The activities of directors' councils are geared toward making greater and more efficient use of every labor collective's production potential and obtaining maximum end results by pooling efforts. The directors' council of Kamensk-Shakhtinskiy in Rostovskaya Oblast, established a few years ago under the gorkom, is, for example, now a veritable school of economic management. Its members regularly compare experience and with the help of gorkom departments have produced a "guide for managers" which is helping to dovetail educational, organizational and economic work in collectives. On the council's initiative a television relay station, a children's hospital and a large hog-raising complex and poultry farm have been built on a cooperative basis.

An important concern of the directors' councils is to analyze economic practice and to study and promote the best management methods. How leading plants, factories and units achieve their successes, how the work of comparing experiences should best be organized and on whom one should rely in the process are questions which are under economic workers' constant scrutiny. The practical work done by out-of-town sessions of directors' councils both at leading and underachieving enterprises also merits attention. On the basis of such studies the councils formulate recommendations for improving the organization of labor and production, making rational use of manpower, and developing mutual cooperation between enterprises. They can make a substantial contribution to the creation of intersector auxiliary units.

There is, however, no denying that the potential which exists here is still not being fully exploited. Some directors' councils are still too timid in attacking departmentalism and parochialism and show a lack of initiative in improving liaison between labor collectives, even though experience shows that this can pay big dividends.

Unfortunately, the sessions of some directors' councils sometimes virtually duplicate production conferences, and their agendas are overburdened with secondary and routine business. Insufficient initiative is being shown in the search for new forms of business-like cooperation between collectives, and the work of sector and scientific research institutes and design bureaus has still not come under scrutiny. The work of following up to see whether decisions are being implemented is poorly organized in some places.

The more closely the practical work of directors' councils is scrutinized by sector ministries, the more effective they are and the greater their influence on the results of collectives' economic activities. Encouragement should be given to the practice adopted by the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment and Control Systems where directors' councils play an important part in increasing the efficiency of the sectors' work and their activities come under the constant scrutiny of the ministry apparatus. The ministry's collegium, for example, recently held a session expressly devoted to analyzing the work of directors' councils in the sector. The question of how to make them more dynamic and more involved in improving the economic mechanism was discussed. It was rightly pointed out that collegium members should participate in the council's work and that more attention should be paid to their views.

Directors' councils liaise closely with obkoms and gorkoms, and this is one of their strengths. Party organs give them constant assistance and through them increase their own influence on the solution of economic and social tasks and the development of competition. Economic managers must be required to adopt a more dynamic approach to the solutuion of major tasks common to all regions and sectors. The example set by those party committees which vigorously support valuable suggestions from the councils and encourage them to help frame important questions for examination at bureau and plenum sessions and in soviet and trade union organs must be followed elsewhere.

Along with other public organs, directors' councils are helping to attract economic managers and specialists into active economic and educational work going far beyond the walls of individual enterprises. In so doing they are providing party organizations with a good basis for solving many of the tasks advanced by the 26th CPSU Congress and for fulfilling the 11th 5-Year Plan targets. The words of the following CPSU Central Committee May Day slogan are addressed to Soviet economic workers and production innovators:

"Specialists in the national economy! Inventors and rationalizers! Improve equipment, techniques and production management!"

PRAVDA EXAMINES MANPOWER DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS

PM211427 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 82 p 2

[Vasiliy Parfenov's "Socioeconomic Review": "The Man Makes the Job"]

[Summary] "A person does not choose his job only for the wages he will receive. He is just as interested in the nature of the work and the moral and creative climate in the collective. Does the enterprise have leisure sites or a stadium, for instance? How much time will he have to spend traveling from home to work...?

"Our Constitution guarantees the right to work and to the choice of profession and professional training. But it must not be forgotten that the same article of the fundamental law says: The choice of place of work must also take social needs into account. Does a person leaving a job 'at his own request' always take this condition into account?

"Everyone's Work Is Equally Necessary

"In recent years some young workers have become excessively fastidious in choosing their place of work. This is in general understandable. For a person with secondary education, it is somehow inconvenient to take up a broom or a spade. But you cannot mechanize all jobs at once, although this must be done as quickly as possible. So that means some people will have to do manual labor for some time.

"Extolling the importance of ANY [printed in boldface type] labor, one thinker in the past has said: 'No nation can attain prosperity until it realizes that to plow a field is just as worthy an occupation as to write a poem.'

"I do not think we talk enough about this when we educate the country's young citizens. And this defect is making itself felt.

"With any social system, if the economy is to function normally people must carry out a huge range of tasks: smelt steel and cultivate the fields, extract coal and sew clothes, construct enterprises and teach children, appear on the stage and clear the garbage from the cities.

"According to USSR Central Statistical Administration data, last year our country had more than 114 million workers and employees and about 13 million kolkhoz members employed in the public economy. Each person's labor is extremely important to the country. Just imagine this unlikely situation: all the bakers decide to change their profession 'at their own request.' We would all become aware of the consequences the very same day. So it is very rash to compare professions and try to say which is more important and simply impossible not to consider society's interests in choosing a place of work."

"The flow of people from the villages to the cities is increasing because more and more new jobs have been created too lavishly in the cities out of the state budget. The fact is that all departments and local organizations have an interest in this. Indeed, the planners think that it is 'simpler and cheaper' to construct a new enterprise next to an existing plant. But if there is nobody to fill the new jobs, the 'cheapness' of creating new shops near existing ones proves illusory. And what do the city authorities think? When another plant is constructed in a city, the state will provide resources for housing construction too."

"Erecting a new plant in a big city rather than in the backwoods is more convenient for the construction workers.... As a result the state's interests suffer: Excess jobs in the cities mean an inevitable fall in the return on production capital and an exodus of cadres from small cities and villages.

"On a Strictly Proportional Basis

"A USSR Gosstroy executive addressed a session of the USSR Gosplan collegium some time ago. He spoke of how new plants are erected abroad. This sentence from his report was particularly memorable: 'I traveled about the FRG for 12 days and in fact did not see a single major new construction project.'

"Firm leaders, to put it simply, begrudge money for the erection of new blocks. So instead, approximately every 7 years, they ruthlessly send their old equipment for scrap and install new, improved equipment. The logic is clear: The walls of the plant buildings, however high or beautiful, do not in themselves increase output, yet substantial resources have to be spent on erecting them. It is machines -- the active part of fixed production capital -- which make it possible to increase the output of high quality goods. So they should be renewed more often. If a plant is 'rejuvenated' without increasing the production area, economists call this process updating [modernizatsiya]. The modernization [rekonstruktsiya] of an enterprise is a rather broader concept. It can entail not only the replacement of equipment, but sometimes the tearing down of dilapidated shops and the erection of new ones.

"Both these types of renewal of production are much more advantageous than the construction of plants in an empty space, from 'scratch.' That is why this line of development of production must be preferred in the new 5-year plan."

The Ivanovskaya Oblast textiles industry has good experience in renewing combines and factories and releasing workers for other jobs.

"Strict proportionality in the development of shop capacities is particularly effective where large units are involved -- in metallurgy, chemicals and petroleum refining." Outdated jobs using partly manual labor must be eliminated in the metallurgical industry in order to improve labor productivity and reduce manpower turnover.

"That could be the end of our talks about jobs. But we have not answered the main question: How many jobs are there in our country? Not even the USSR Central Statistical Administration keeps account of this, nor does the USSR Gosplan use the 'job' as a unit of calculation in drawing up plans. What do you think of that! Here it is apposite to cite an important provision from the basic guidelines for the country's development in the 11th 5-Year Plan: 'Measures must be adopted to achieve a balance between existing and new jobs and manpower resources.'

"But how can the balance sheet be drawn up if it is not known precisely how many jobs we have and how many new ones are added to them annually? A method of drawing up a jobs balance for enterprises, sectors and regions has been created and assessed in practice by economists in Leningrad. Their experience should be studied more rapidly and applied on a countrywide scale.

"The Ukrainian SSR State Committee for Labor, together with the republic's scientists, has conducted an analysis at nearly 300 enterprises to see how efficiently jobs are used over a 24-hour period. Among other important conclusions is this one: At many enterprises there is an increasing imbalance between the number of jobs and manpower resources. In the Ukrainian sewn goods industry, the equipment pool increased 10 percent in the last 5-year plan, and the number of workers by 1.7 percent. As a result many places at machines are not occupied. The situation is much the same in certain other sectors."

Where Can Manpower Be Found?

The usual sources include young people and women with children. "The 11th 5-Year Plan pins great hopes on the manpower resources of the Central Asian and Transcaucasian Republics where population growth rates are highest." Work at home by women and labor veterans is also a possible source.

"We have too many offices and research and design organizations. New professional performing groups are being created in nearly every city. The system of administration of construction, trade and consumer services is too unwieldy. The USSR Council of Ministers recently adopted a resolution 'on measures to limit the growth and reduce the number of workers in the administrative apparatus and certain sectors in the nonproduction sphere.' This topical decision must be strictly implemented.

"To sum up, the following conclusions may be highlighted. In order to achieve higher stability in labor collectives, it is necessary to balance the numbers of jobs and manpower more accurately than at present in each city and region. More and more new jobs must not be recklessly created if there is no chance of filling them. Here stricter control must be exercised by the USSR Gosplan and the USSR State Committee for labor and social problems.

"As the 26th party congress decisions require, we will see still more active improvements in the structure of capital investments. Here the line is clear: An increasingly weighty share of resources must be spent on refitting existing plants. Unproductive jobs must be resolutely eliminated and more up-to-date ones organized instead. Work will become increasingly attractive and creative.

"One more thing. It is obviously expedient to spend less time talking about the manpower shortage and to make better use of the potential which exists in the country. The key to success here is to increase labor discipline and exactingness toward people and inculcate responsibility for the task both in the management component and in production. After all, if a plant fulfills 60-70 percent of its monthly program in the last 10 days of the month, that means the enterprise has considerably more people than are needed for working at a steady rate.

"Our jobs.... They are all enhanced by a person who knows how to work in a well-organized, skillful way. In creating and renewing jobs we must remember the main thing: Who will fill them and how people will deal with the task in hand."

PROBLEMS IN KAZAKHSTAN POWER INDUSTRY NOTED

PM230955 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 14 April publishes on page 2 a 3,600-word V. Afanasyev article under the heading "Kazakhstan: Grain and Energy." The first half of the article discusses grain production in Kazakhstan, outlining the history and present state of grain growing in the virgin lands and noting current tasks, such as the need to combat wind erosion and improve the availability of agricultural machinery.

The second half is devoted to Kazakhstan's power industry centered on Ekibastuz. Afanasyev outlines the work of the Ekibastuz Gres-1 and notes existing problems, the chief of which is "laggardness in the erection of backup services," including railroads and housing. He goes on to discuss the work of the Ekibastuz coalfield and the expediency of producing power on the spot rather than transporting coal. The article concludes by noting that what has been said about Kazakhstan "does not mean that everything is going smoothly and well in the republic, that there are no shortcomings, difficulties or problems. They exist and people know about them and talk openly and frankly about them." The tasks are complex, but, Afanasyev notes, "the opportunities are great and the prospects bright."

SOME FARM MACHINERY NOT READY FOR SPRING

PM221341 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Shock Labor in the Spring Field"]

[Excerpt] The practice of kolkhozes and sovkhozes which have taken an appreciable step in developing their farming convincingly shows that concern for farming standards, efficient operation of equipment and skillful use of fertilizers make the ears of grain strong. However, on certain farms machines work only one shift even at the busy harvest time, losses of mineral fertilizers occur, and the work hour is not valued everywhere. All this damages farms and the harvest. From the first days of the spring work is necessary to enhance the degree of organization in every team, detachment and link and people's responsibility for the quality of work.

There is a basis for the saying: you reap what you have sown. Many kolkhozes and sovkhozes have gone over to sowing nothing but high-grade seed and make skillful use of the achievements of Soviet selective breeding. Good seed has been prepared this year, for example, in Novosibirskaya, Omskaya and Tselinogradskaya Oblasts and Altayskiy Kray. But an exacting attitude to seed grain has not been displayed everywhere. In Irkutskaya and Uralskaya Oblasts a proportion of the seed has not been raised to the necessary condition. Where necessary, additional cleaning, dressing and air and heat treatment should be organized as quickly as possible.

Progress in repairing equipment is giving rise to considerable concern. By the beginning of April 92 out of every 100 tractors had been made ready. But in a number of regions there are delays over sending machines to workshops, and tardiness and laggardness are permitted. Thus, on certain farms in Kirgizia and Turkmenia, where field work is in full swing, approximately 9 percent of tractors remain defective, and 16 percent is the figure in Vologodskaya and Kirovskaya Oblasts. It is the duty of local party, soviet and agricultural organs to make strict demands on leaders of kolkhozes, sovkhozes and associations of the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture for the laggardness that has occurred, to help them commission every machine more quickly and to organize efficient operation and maintenance.

The spring work is the first test of the fulfillment of the pledges adopted by farmers for the second year of the 5-year plan. Machine operators are seeking to carry out sowing quickly and to a high standard and to lay a good foundation for the harvest. But success in the countryside does not only depend on rural workers. Machine builders and chemical industry workers must use all their resources to promote their fruitful labor. In letters received by PRAVDA machine operators make many complaints against collectives of enterprises which do not fulfill their plans for supplying components or which manufacture them to a low standard. The debtors include the Pavlodar tractor plant, the Kharkov tractor engine plant, the Michurinsk Motordetal production association and the Krasnoyarsk industrial rubber products plant. Enterprise party committees and leaders must step up control over the fulfillment of orders for the countryside.

Soviet people are preparing worthily to greet the USSR's 60th anniversary. It is the task of rural party organizations to effectively direct the competition among those involved in the spring work, analyze in greater depth the experience of progressive workers, disseminate their work methods more widely and improve the system of material and moral incentives. The personal example of communists and their vanguard role during sowing are of tremendous significance. They must head the competition to increase production of agricultural produce and to make fuller use of reserves for increasing the fields' yields and the return from livestock units.

May the CPSU Central Committee May Day slogan be the combat motto of their labor:

"Kolkhoz members and sovkhoz working people: Improve the efficiency of agriculture!

"Make thrifty use of land, equipment and fertilizers!

"Excellent quality in the spring fieldwork!

"Let us make the motherland happy with a big harvest!"

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 22-25 APR

LD240222/LD260116 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian from 22 to 25 April. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of east item.

22 April

The current late spring has been a serious trial for cotton farmers. They have compressed the already short period of work on the plantations. As a rule, success has been achieved where advance planning about precise organization of the machine operators' work has been done and where machinery is used efficiently. By 19 April cotton had been sown on 2.7 million hectares. (0300 GMT)

Sowing of early grain crops has begun in southern Chuvashskaya ASSR. (0400 GMT)

Mass sowing of corn has begun in Krasnodarskiy Kray, where corn is to be grown on 300,000 hectares. (0400 GMT)

Cotton sowing is coming to an end in Uzbekistan. Over 1.8 million hectares have been sown to date: This is 90 percent of the plan. (0400 GMT)

Leninabadskaya Oblast in Kazahstan is the first in the republic to complete cotton sowing; 91,000 hectares have been sown. Fine-fiber cotton occupies 4,500 hectares. A harvest of 248,000 tons of cotton is pledged. (0600 GMT)

Mass sowing of corn is underway in Kirgizia. The area sown to corn has been increased to 40,000 hectares this year. (0600 GMT)

Sowing of corn is beginning in the southern part of Nikolayevskaya Oblast. Corn will be sown on 80,000 hectares throughout the oblast. (0730 GMT)

Pre-sowing work has begun in 15 southern rayons of Tyumenskaya Oblast. About 1.4 million hectares are to be sown to spring crops this year; grain crops will be sown on 80 percent of this area. (0730 GMT)

Rice sowing begins in Turkmenistan today. The (?Uzros) 59 strain, which is highly productive and holds up well to flattening, is being used for the first time on all fields. The strain was developed in Uzbekistan. About 9,000 hectares of irrigated land have been prepared in the Amu-Darya Valley and the Tashauz Oasis. (1100 GMT)

The sowing campaign has started in the Volga-Vyatka region. Gorkovskaya Oblast has started sowing early grains and pulses. (1100 GMT)

Orenburgskaya Oblast has begun harrowing. Units are working around the clock. (1100 GMT)

Rice growers in the Ukraine are ready to begin sowing. A new variety of rice, Malysh, will be cultivated for the first time in Khersonskaya Oblast. It is high-yielding and disease and pest resistant, and will be grown on large areas. (1100 GMT)

Crimean farms have begun watering plantings. More than 2,000 irrigation devices are engaged in the work and more than 300,000 hectares are irrigated.

Each irrigated hectare produces four times as much as land that is not irrigated. The North Crimea Canal has made it possible to include marginal and even quite infertile land in the crop rotation. High yields of grain, vegetables and perennial grasses are now guaranteed. Many new crops, such as soya and rape, are now permanently under cultivation in the dry steppe. (1100 GMT)

Corn sowing has begun in Moldavia. (1800 GMT)

All Altayskiy Kray farms have started spring work. Harrowing is in progress. Harrowing of arable land and perennial grasses is being carried out on 200,000 hectares daily. (1800 GMT)

23 April

Harrowing has been completed on 1 million hectares in Omskaya Oblast. This is almost one-half of the planned grain area. (0204 GMT)

Kirgizia has completed cotton sowing; 55,000 hectares have been sown. (0600 GMT)

Stavropolskiy Kray has over 330,000 hectares of irrigated land. Water is provided annually up to 50,000 hectares of arid land near canals. Field work has begun. (0600 GMT)

Kurskaya Oblast farms have begun spring field work. It is beginning in complex conditions because spring is late and rains are frequent. To date early grain crops have been sown on the first 50,000 hectares. Sowing of early grain crops will be completed by the end of April. These crops will occupy 500,000 hectares. (0800 GMT)

Farmers in southern Turkmenistan have sown about 30,000 hectares of corn. (1400 GMT)

Rice is being sown in Karakalpakskaya ASSR. Harrowing has been carried out in Ryazanskaya Oblast. (1500 GMT)

Farms in Checheno-Ingushskaya ASSR have completed sowing of early spring crops. Farmers are now sowing corn. (2300 GMT)

Sowing of cotton is being completed in Uzbekistan. Shoots have appeared on the first quarter of the area sown. (2330 GMT)

24 April

Spring is unusually late in Nikolayevskaya Oblast in the Ukraine. Although it is nearly May, the weather is not yet warm and there is still rain. Almost all farms in the oblast have begun to sow corn; the crop will occupy 800,000 hectares this year and most of it will be cultivated through industrial technology. (0805 GMT)

Cotton sowing ended in Azerbaijan today. Cotton was sown on over 300,000 hectares of irrigated land, far more than last year. Because of the cold spring, spring sowing began later than usual and was carried out quickly. (1100 GMT)

Southern farms in Khabarovskiy Kray began planting potatoes today. Work is unusually complex this year because heavy rain last summer and autumn overmoistened the soil. Special equipment has been used to prepare the soil. Potato growers plan to obtain 150 quintals per hectare on the majority of sovkhozes and kolkhozes. (1100 GMT)

Azerbaijan has sown 300,000 hectares of cotton. This is 40,000 hectares more than last year. (1200 GMT)

The efficiency of irrigated farmland is generally low in Saratovskaya Oblast. That is why kolkhozes and sovkhozes have set themselves the task of reaching projected yields on each hectare as they apply a scientificially-based system of arable farming in practice. This year there are plans to harvest all vegetables and potatoes, three-quarters of the forage crops, as well as grain, sugar beet and sunflower on the oblast's irrigated farmland, which will occupy over 400,000 hectares. (1800 GMT)

25 April

Farms in the southern rayons of Kazakhstan Oblast have started sowing early crops. Gross grain production is expected to be 1 million tons this year. (0400 GMT)

Rice sowing began in Krasnodarskiy Kray today. The crop will be sown on 182,000 hectares. (0400 GMT)

After heavy rain, it is now sunny in Tatarskaya ASSR. Mass preparations for sowing spring crops have begun. (0400 GMT)

Farms in Ryazanskaya Oblast have completed harrowing for winter crops and perennial grasses on 1 million hectares. Many brigades are sowing despite the rainy weather. (0600 GMT)

Fodder conveyers have started working on Crimean farms. Winter rape is the first crop to come in followed by perennial grasses, especially alfalfa. New strains are increasing yields. (1500 GMT)

INCREASED ATTENTION TO FODDER CROPS URGED

PM221009 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 82 p 1

["Agricultural Review" compiled by "USSR Ministry of Agriculture experts": "Crops for Livestock Units"]

[Text] After getting off to a flying start in the south, the spring campaign is gradually spreading to other regions. Sowing is now underway in 14 union republics. According to figures from the USSR Central Statistical Administration, as of 12 April kolkhozes and sovkhozes had sown an area of 11.6 million hectares to spring crops. Fieldwork is speeding up in the North Caucasus, the Ukraine, Moldavia and the Trancaucasus. Farms in Belorussia have begun planting potatoes. In the Central Asian Republics the cotton plantations are a hive of activity.

Work is also in full swing in fields sown to fodder crops. Owing to the complex weather conditions some places failed to lay in the necessary quantity of fodder last year. This prevented a number of farms from achieving the projected rate of increase in milk yields, weight gains and sales of meat and milk to the state. The lessons of this must be learned. The requisite amounts of fodder must be laid in and we must be thinking about this now.

Stockmen get the bulk of their fodder from the fields. More than 60 million hectares of land have been set aside to meet livestock units' requirements. A vast area! It provides more than 70 percent of the fodder laid in by kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Increasing the output of the fodder growing area is now one of our most important tasks. Each hectare of that area produces an average 18-20 quintals of fodder units. Averages of up to 40 quintals are achieved in the Ukraine and Moldavia, and many of the country's farms, -- for example, the Ploskovskiy Sovkhoz in Kievskaya Oblast and the Progress Kolkhoz in Grodnenskaya Oblast -- are averaging several times that. It is a different matter in Pskovskaya, Tulskaya and Kirovskaya Oblasts, where they are averaging a mere 13-17 quintals of fodder units. This can scarcely be put down to the region's climate or other peculiarities since last year another farm in Tulskaya Oblast -- the Novaya Zhizn Kolkhoz -- averaged 56 quintals of hay, 1,260 quintals of root crops and 661 quintals of silage corn per hectare -- an average of 50 quintals of fodder units. This all goes to show the great potential of fodder crop production. It is the duty of the experts and economic organs to top that potential more fully.

Improving the structure of the sown area is a sure way to succeed. It is being considerably improved. Compared with last year it is planned to considerable expand the area sown to perennial grasses. A sizeable proportion of the fodder growing area will be taken up with corn.

In view of the big saving to be made from cultivating early-ripening and medium-early hybrids of this crop farms are, at the initiative of local party and Soviet organs, to expand the area sown to them by more than 1 million hectares. The area sown to root crops is also being increased.

Production of vegetable protein remains a major task. PRAVDA has already written about ways of solving it. We would add that the shortage of fodder protein is preventing stockmen from increasing livestock unit output more rapidly. It is therefore important to pay particular attention to pulse crops and to see to it that the area sown to alfalfa, clover, lupin, rape and other high-protein crops is increased.

Considerable efforts will also be needed on the part of experts and all farmers to establish a green forage chain -- providing herds with a continuous supply of fodder throughout the grazing season.

Reports from the localities indicate that rural workers have already made a start on this work. In the approach to the jubilee, socialist competition to ensure the prompt completion of sowing is underway over a wide area. Hundreds of thousands of hectares have been sown to grasses, corn and root crops in the Central Asian and Trancaucasian Republics and the RSFSR. Farms in the Ukraine have begun sowing green forage crops.

The consistent improvement of labor organization in the fodder-growing area is a supremely important task. The number of specialized fodder-production teams and links is increasing. Their work last season demonstrated convincingly the practical advantages of this new approach. As a rule, the crops were better tended and the quality of fodder higher on farms with such teams.

Last year, for example, the well-known Moldavian machine operator Hero of Socialist Labor S. Lungu harvested an average 80 quintals of corn grain per hectare. But this year, together with other innovators in the growing area, he was urged by all the republic's rural workers to join in a competition to obtain the fodder unit equivalent of at least 100 quintals of fodder per hectare. Local party, soviet and economic organs have publicized this initiative widely. It must gain acceptance in other republics, krays and oblasts too. It is important that teams be fully manned and provided with equipment and fertilizer and that land be assigned to them. In short, fodder production must everywhere be given the character of a specialized sector.

Particular attention must be paid to areas under irrigation since they can produce big crops regardless of the weather. However, good fodder harvests are not being obtained everywhere on irrigated land. The correct practice is being followed where the man-made fields are sown to the highest-yielding crops and irrigation schedules and procedures are adhered to.

Fodder production also has a major reserve in the shape of repeat sowings and catch crops. It is planned to increase the area sown to them by 1 million hectares -- a considerable increase considering that last year only 2.3 million hectares were sown to these crops. We are faced with the task of preparing the land and sowing them at just the right time. Agricultural organs must help crop growers to obtain seed and to skillfully tend the crops. Estimates show that in the RSFSR and Georgia, for example, the area under repeat sowings could be doubled or even trebled. Little is being done as yet to tap this reserve in Kirgizia, Turkmenia and Tadzhikistan.

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes are giving more and more attention to the fodder growing area. Many farms, rayons and oblasts like Volynskaya and Cherkasskaya Oblasts, for example, are already almost finished topdressing the sowings. This operation is progressing well on a number of kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Lithuania, the Lower Volga Region and the North Caucasus.

The fodder growing area is often called the foundation of stockraising. Just as much attention must be paid to it as to the grainfields. In response to the CPSU Central Committee May Day slogans rural workers are striving to complete spring sowing on schedule and to a high standard and to ensure that the seedlings are well-tended, thereby laying the foundation for a big harvest.

COSMOS-1353 SATELLITE LAUNCHED 23 APRIL

LD231556 Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 23 Apr, TASS -- Today the Soviet Union has launched another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1353.

The satellite carried aboard scientific equipment to continue the study of natural resources of the earth for various branches of the national economy and also for the benefit of international cooperation.

In the initial period of revolution of the satellite is 89.1 minutes, its maximum distance from the earth surface 269 kilometres, its minimum distance 218 kilometres and the inclination of the orbit -- 82.3 degrees.

The satellite's scientific equipment works normally. The information received from the satellite is conveyed to the research and production centre Priroda (Nature) to be processed and put to use.

SATELLITE DATA STATION CONSTRUCTED NEAR MOSCOW

LD231218 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] A station collecting data from satellites, detecting vessels and aircraft in distress, has been constructed near Moscow. The Soviet Union and the United States will soon launch five such satellites. They will monitor the world's ocean and determine the location of the distress signal with a precision of 2 kilometers. Information from space will also be collected by French, Candaian and American stations.

POLAR RESEARCH SHIP HEADING FOR GREENLAND SEA

PM260849 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 15 Apr 82 p 1

[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA-TASS report: "Otto Schmidt in Icy Waters"]

[Text] A course from the Baltic to the Greenland Sea has been charted by the navigators of the scientific-research icebreaker Otto Schmidt.

The ship's captian G. Klimakhin yesterday radioed in a report that the team on board had started its scientific program, which includes observations of the ice, of the water conditions, the atmosphere and solar radiation. This information is vital to a proper understanding of the processes determining the weather over continental Europe.

The Leningrade-based polar research team had dedicated the 10th scientifc voyage by the only icebreaker in the world which doubles as a floating laboratory to the recent 90th birth anniversary of Academician O.Yu. Schmidt, the distinguished Soviet scientist and enthusiastic Arctic explorer for whom the ship is named.

The icebreaker Otto Schmidt is designed for the study of remote parts of the Arctic basin and the North Atlantic beyond the reach of the drift routes of the Severnyy Polyus scientific basis and access to conventional research vessels is blocked by ice.

BRIEFS

TELEVISION RELAY -- Residents of Kargopol now have the opportunity of watching the second all-union televison program. A radio relay line between Kargopol and Ryabovo has been put into serivce. It will be used to transmitting both television programs and telephone signals. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 25 Apr 82 LD]